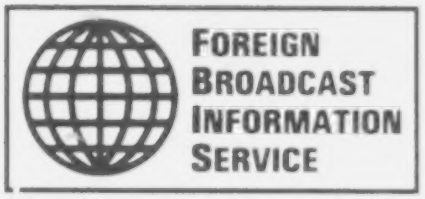

Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-93-203
Friday
22 October 1993

Daily Report
Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-93-203 22 October 1993

CONTENTS

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

Antimonopoly Committees Conference Ends in Almaty *[Russian TV]* 1
ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 21 Oct 1
Press Review for 22 Oct 2

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Lukin Ambitions, Christopher Visit Viewed *[IZVESTIYA 21 Oct]* 3
Warren Christopher's Russia Visit Previewed *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 21 Oct]* 3
Official Comments on Visit *[ITAR-TASS]* 4
Preparations for Summit To Be Discussed *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 22 Oct]* 4
Secretary Christopher Arrives *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Chernomyrdin Meets Christopher *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Kozyrev, Christopher Discuss Clinton Visit *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Stepping Up of U.S. Nuclear Submarine Patrols Criticized *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Oct]* 5
St. Louis Meeting Assesses Economies' Needs *[IZVESTIYA 20 Oct]* 6
U.S. TV Specialists Examine Election Coverage Plans *[Russian TV]* 7
Kozyrev Views Talks With France's Leotard *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
Further on Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
Departs Paris for Moscow *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
Sides Welcome Continuation of 100-Year Franco-Russian Tie *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 21 Oct]* 8
Kozyrev Comments on Georgian Call For Army's Help *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 21 Oct]* 9
Troops Will Assist Georgia To Keep Railroad Open *[Moscow Radio]* 9
Transcaucasian Group of Forces Denies Involvement in Georgia *[Russian TV]* 10
Defense Ministry Does Not Confirm Military Aid to Georgia *[INTERFAX]* 10
Ukraine Navy Chief's Assurances on Black Sea Fleet Noted *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Oct]* 10
Ukraine Accused of 'Foot-Dragging' Over Missiles *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 21 Oct]* 10
'No Tangible Results' in Talks With Latvia *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 21 Oct]* 11
Shokhin, Belarusian Counterpart Sign Protocol on Ruble Zone *[ITAR-TASS]* 11
Government Statement on China's Nuclear Test *[ITAR-TASS]* 12
'Text' of Statement *[ITAR-TASS]* 12
Aircraft Firms Display New Wares at Beijing Exhibition *[Moscow TV]* 13
Greenpeace Monitoring of 'Scandalous' Nuclear Dumping Noted *[Moscow TV]* 13
Japanese 'Experts' Comment *[ITAR-TASS]* 13
Chernomyrdin Suspends Dumping *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
Assistance Needed in Nuclear Waste Processing *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
Minister on Radioactive Waste *[INTERFAX]* 14
Japan's Reaction Queried *[INTERFAX]* 14
Japans Hata Pleads With Kozyrev *[IZVESTIYA 21 Oct]* 15
International Group on Radioactive Waste Disposal Proposed *[ITAR-TASS]* 15
Nuclear Energy Minister Leaves for Japan Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 15
Joint Venture Set Up To Service Aircraft Sold to India *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Oct]* 16
Ambassador to Algeria Blames Slayings on 'Terrorism' *[IZVESTIYA 21 Oct]* 16
'Islamic Fundamentalists' Blamed *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 21 Oct]* 17
'Contradictions' in Moscow Stance on Libya Sanctions *[IZVESTIYA 21 Oct]* 17
Diplomats in Burundi 'Safe and Sound' *[ITAR-TASS]* 18
Telecommunications Deal Signed With Cyprus *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 20 Oct]* 18
Yeltsin Message to CFE Leaders Viewed *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 21 Oct]* 18
Country Involved in International Peacekeeping Operations *[SEGODNYA 21 Oct]* 20
EC Wants Partnership, Cooperation Agreement *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Oct]* 21

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Issues

Security Ministry Staff Said Facing 40 Percent Cut *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 21 Oct]* 22
Yeltsin Signs Decree on Members of Security Council *[Radio Rossii]* 22
Chernomyrdin Remains on Council *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
Yeltsin Signs Decree on Council Commissions *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
Officials Explain Changed Shape of Intelligence Service *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 21 Oct]* 22
Yeltsin Denies Acting 'Like a Dictator' *[ITAR-TASS]* 23
Shakhray Condemns Ousting of Non-Russians During Emergency *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 21 Oct]* 24
Officer Discusses Role in White House Assault *[Milan IL GIORNALE 19 Oct]* 24
Yeltsin Issues 'Decree' on Procurator's Office *[ITAR-TASS]* 25
Yeltsin Decree on Council Reform Explained *[ITAR-TASS]* 25
Shakhray Says New Government To Be Formed After Elections *[Russian TV]* 26
Shakhray on Principles of Division of Power *[INTERFAX]* 26
Yavlinskiy Criticizes Yeltsin's Policies *[Rome LA REPUBBLICA 19 Oct]* 27

Media Issues

New Federal Assembly Press Service Formed *[ITAR-TASS]* 28
PRAVDA 'To Resume Publishing Next Week' *[London THE EUROPEAN 21-24 Oct]* 29
Press Ministry Issues Statement on Banned Publications *[ITAR-TASS]* 29
Satellite Problems Delay Central Newspapers in Far East *[Vladivostok Radio]* 30

Election Issues

Lineup of Parliamentary Election Blocs Explained *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 21 Oct]* 30
Movements, Parties Barred From Elections Listed *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 21 Oct]* 31
Communists, Free Russia Not Banned *[IZVESTIYA 21 Oct]* 31
Communists To Enter Elections, Hold Conference *[INTERFAX]* 32
Banned Parties Seek Indirect Ways To Elect Candidates *[SEGODNYA 21 Oct]* 32
Yeltsin Aide Views Parties' Readiness for Election *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Oct]* 32
Burbulis, Others Announce Candidacy for Parliament *[ITAR-TASS]* 33
Grachev: 'No Intention' To Join Election Campaign *[INTERFAX]* 33
Gaydar, Shakhray Comment on Political Programs *[OBSHCHAYA GAZETA 22-28 Oct]* 34
Gaydar Outlines Russia's Choice Platform *[INTERFAX]* 35
Chernomyrdin Named as Candidate for State Duma *[ITAR-TASS]* 35
Filatov on Elections, Royal Family's Reburial *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 22 Oct]* 36
'Women of Russia' Group Nominates Election Candidates *[ITAR-TASS]* 36
Candidates Discuss Russia Choice's Political Agenda *[Moscow TV]* 36
Republicans Join Yavlinskiy Bloc; Filatov May Run *[KURANTY 21 Oct]* 37
Leaders of Local Electoral Commission Appointed *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Oct]* 38
Parties' Efforts To Raise Election Funding Viewed *[NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA 20 Oct]* 38
Extent of Ministers' Election Commitment Questioned *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Oct]* 39
Regions Preparing for Federal Assembly Elections *[ITAR-TASS]* 40
Commentator Wants Voters To Reject Extremism *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 21 Oct]* 40

Military Issues

General Interviewed on White House Siege *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 20 Oct]* 41
Failed Army Union Chief on Soldiers' Plight *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 13 Oct]* 43
Shaposhnikov Asks To Resign From Army *[MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS 20 Oct]* 45
Autumn Army Draft Begins in Sakhalin *[Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk TV]* 45

Economic Issues

Gaydar Cited on 'Unpopular' Economic Measures *[Russian TV]* 45
Gaydar on Agro-Industrial Sector *[Russian TV]* 46

Zaveryukha: No Alternative to Agrarian Reform *[INTERFAX]* 46
Finance Minister Fedorov on Ruble Zone *[INTERFAX]* 47

Regional Affairs

Commandant Briefs Press on End of Moscow Emergency *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Oct]* 47
Reports Back to Government *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 21 Oct]* 48
Regional Parliaments' Plight After Yeltsin Decree 48
Samara Oblast Soviet To Dissolve *[Radio Rossii]* 48
Tatarstan 'In No Hurry' for Reforms *[IZVESTIYA 20 Oct]* 48
Rostov Soviet Fails To Agree on Future *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Oct]* 48
Sakhalin To Review Decision on Edict *[Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk TV]* 49
Magadan Soviet Rejects Self-Dissolution *[Magadan Radio]* 49
Gaydar Tops Election Poll in St. Petersburg, Moscow *[MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS 21 Oct]* 49
Nizhniy Novgorod Election Arrangements Taking Shape *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Oct]* 50
Personalities Could Outweigh Policies in Tambov Race *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Oct]* 50
District Electoral Commissions Organized in Khabarovsk *[Khabarovsk Radio]* 50
Chechen President Will Not Participate in 12 Dec Elections *[INTERFAX]* 51
Chechen Opposition Leader Seeks Elections *[ITAR-TASS]* 51
Terrorist Acts in Groznyy Linked to Russian Elections *[INTERFAX]* 51
Tatarstan Lists Weapons, Defense Technology for Export *[ITAR-TASS]* 51
St. Petersburg Deputy Mayor Faces Criminal Proceedings *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 21 Oct]* 52
Komi Republic Could Get 'Temporary' President *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 20 Oct]* 52
Kaliningrad Admiral Views Politics, NATO *[Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH 15-17 Oct]* 52
Balance of Stavropol Political Forces Eyed *[IZVESTIYA 14 Oct]* 54

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Plyushch, U.S. Envoy Discuss START I Treaty *[ITAR-TASS]* 56
Deputies Set Conditions for START I Ratification *[Radio Rossii]* 56
Shmarov on Disputes With Russia Over Nuclear Arms *[INTERFAX]* 56
Shmarov: 'Economic Problems' Govern Denuclearization *[IZVESTIYA 22 Oct]* 56
Reasons for Envoy Lukyanenko's Resignation Viewed *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 19 Oct]* 58

National Affairs

Parliament Decides Not To Shut Down Chernobyl *[ITAR-TASS]* 59
Energy Crisis Prods Restart of Chernobyl Power Station *[SEGODNYA 21 Oct]* 59
Two Periodicals Prosecuted for 'Antistate Activity' *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 20 Oct]* 60
Officials Complain of Leaked Meeting Minutes to BBC *[Kiev International]* 60
BBC, U.S. Correspondents Stripped of Accreditation *[UNIAR]* 60
Supreme Council Replaces Procurator General *[Kiev International]* 60
Ex-Defense Minister Morozov To Stand in Elections *[DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA 20 Oct]* 61
New Armed Forces Rear Services Chief Appointed *[Kiev TV]* 61
Parliament Approves Armed Forces, Security Regulations *[ITAR-TASS]* 61
Security Service Officials Accused of 'Provocations' *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 20 Oct]* 61
Statistics Show 209 Deaths in Army Since Start of 1993 *[DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA 20 Oct]* 61
Space Center Set Up in Dnepropetrovsk *[ITAR-TASS]* 61
New Crimean Party Seen as Third Major Force *[RESPUBLIKA 7 Oct]* 61
Democrats Join Fight Against Communists in Elections *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 21 Oct]* 62
Crimea Seen on Road of Independence From Kiev *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 19 Oct]* 63
Early Contenders for Crimean Presidency Profiled *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 21 Oct]* 63

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Shushkevich Comments on Results of Bulgaria Visit *[ITAR-TASS]* 64
Supreme Soviet Chairman on New Constitution, Government *[ZVYAZDA 15 Oct]* 64
Entrepreneurs' Union To Participate in Early Elections *[DOBRY VECHAR 18 Oct]* 64
NDPB Demands Action Against Officers' Union *[DOBRY VECHAR 14 Oct]* 64

Moldova

Snegur Appoints Foreign Minister Tau Ambassador to U.S. *[Bucharest ROMPRES]* 65
Snegur, Sanghelli Meet Russia's Chernomyrdin *[BASAPRESS]* 65
Russian Prosecutor's Office Denies Tiraspol Talks *[IZVESTIYA 21 Oct]* 65
Minister of National Security Holds Talks in Moscow *[BASAPRESS]* 65
Russian Commander Reportedly Summoned to Moscow *[ITAR-TASS]* 65
Snegur, Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Discuss Ties *[BASAPRESS]* 66
Tau, Iranian Ambassador Discuss Ties *[BASAPRESS]* 66
Ukraine's Envoy, CSCE Official Discuss Dniester Conflict *[BASAPRESS]* 66
Snegur Addresses Dniester Region Inhabitants *[IZVESTIYA 21 Oct]* 66
Dniester Introduces Measures To Restrict Bread Exports *[BASAPRESS]* 67
IMF Proposes Application of 'Shock Therapy' *[BASAPRESS]* 67
FPCD Condemns Repeated Attacks Against Opposition
[Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA 19 Oct] 67
Daily Outlines Platform of Recently Founded Reform Party *[BASAPRESS]* 68

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev, China's Jiang Zemin Discuss Trade Issues *[Almaty Radio]* 69
Nazarbayev Reaches Cooperation Accord With Mongolia *[ITAR-TASS]* 69
Defense Ministry To Establish Caspian Sea Fleet *[Radio Rossii]* 69
Cooperation Agreements Reached With Bashkortostan *[Almaty Radio]* 69
Almaty Accommodates Kazakhs Fleeing Afghanistan *[Almaty Radio]* 69
Demand for New Russian Rubles Outstripping Supply *[IZVESTIYA 20 Oct]* 70

Kyrgyzstan

Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani Continues Visit 70
Holds 2d Round of Talks With Akayev *[Tehran Radio]* 70
Further on Akayev Talks; Accord Signed *[Tehran IRNA]* 70
Meets Other Leaders, More Accords *[Tehran Radio]* 71
Meets Ulema Association Members *[Tehran IRNA]* 71
Inaugurates New Embassy *[Tehran Radio]* 72
Receives 'Highest Award' *[Tehran IRNA]* 72
Meets Muslim Leaders, Holds News Conference *[ITAR-TASS]* 72

Tajikistan

CIS Coalition Forces Kill 70 Guerrillas in Clashes *[Moscow TV]* 72
Official Refutes Report *[INTERFAX]* 72
Armed Opposition Fighters From Afghanistan 'Expelled' *[ITAR-TASS]* 73
Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on Wages, Pensions *[Dushanbe Radio]* 73
'Unabating Flow' of Russian-Speakers Want To Emigrate *[IZVESTIYA 20 Oct]* 73

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Yerevan Accepts UN Resolution on Nagorno-Karabakh *[Yerevan Radio]* 75

Government Denies Troops Dispatched to Georgia *[Yerevan Radio]* 75
Authorities Reportedly Impose Curfew in Stepanakert *[Radio Rossii]* 75
Official Denies Curfew Imposed *[Yerevan Radio]* 75
Moscow Businessman's Bid for Presidency 'Premature' *[IZVESTIYA 21 Oct]* 76
Number of Civil Servants To Be Cut by 13.5 Percent *[ARMENPRES]* 76

Azerbaijan

Georgian Appeal for Military Assistance 'Not Received' *[TURAN]* 76
Reports on Decision Said 'Premature' *[TURAN]* 77
Baku Considers UN Karabakh Resolution 'Unacceptable' *[IZVESTIYA 20 Oct]* 77
Army Reportedly Launches Offensive in South Karabakh *[INTERFAX]* 77
CSCE Requests Facts on Cities 'Under Occupation' *[Baku TV]* 77
Turkish Envoy Comments on Baku's Conflict With Armenia *[Baku TV]* 78
Contract Signed for Kazakhstan Natural Gas *[TURAN]* 78

Georgia

Shevardnadze Discusses Present Situation *[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el]* 78
Zviadist-Government Fighting Continues in West 80
Government Launches Large-Scale Offensive *[Paris AFP]* 80
State Troops Recapture Khoni *[Tbilisi Radio]* 80
Situation in Kutaisi Reportedly Quiet *[ITAR-TASS]* 80
Chokhatauri Reportedly Quiet *[IBERIA]* 80
Zviadists Still Occupy Poti, Lanchkhuti *[IBERIA]* 80
Unclear Who Controls Western Towns *[INTERFAX]* 81
State Troops Attack Samtredia, Senaki *[Radio Rossii]* 81
State Forces Regain Samtredia *[Radio Rossii]* 81
Further on Samtredia Fighting *[Paris AFP]* 81
Zviadists Occupy Ozurgeti Rayon *[Tbilisi Radio]* 81
Military Police Depart for Kutaisi *[Tbilisi Radio]* 82
Prosecutor Issues Arrest Warrant for Gamsakhurdia *[INTERFAX]* 82
Black Sea Fleet in 'Exclusively' Peacekeeping Role *[ITAR-TASS]* 82
Emergency Commission Chairman Appeals to Rebel Leaders *[CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY]* 82
TV Reports Clinton Letter of Support for Shevardnadze *[Tbilisi TV]* 82
Kadagishvili, U.S. Ambassador Discuss Reforms, Aid *[Tbilisi Radio]* 83
Shevardnadze Meets With Chinese Ambassador Wan *[INTERFAX]* 83
Shevardnadze Appoints Tbilisi Deputy Mayor, Envoy *[Tbilisi Radio]* 84

BALTIC STATES

Estonia

Russian Air Force Chief Says Troops To Leave by Year's End *[ETA NEWS RELEASE]* 85
Parliament Ratifies Consular Convention With Russia *[Tallinn Radio]* 85
Velliste Praises Yeltsin's Moves To Normalize Relations *[INTERFAX]* 85
Laar Continues Belgian Trip, Says EC Accord 'Months' Away *[BNS]* 85
Sweden Presents Border Guards With Refurbished Patrol Ship *[ETA NEWS BULLETIN]* 86
Assembly Party Candidates Win 'Absolute Majority' *[BNS]* 86
'Several Leading Figures' Said Considering Resignation *[ETA NEWS BULLETIN]* 86
'Surveillance Microphone' Found in Savings Bank Office *[ETA NEWS BULLETIN]* 86

Latvia

Official Views Upcoming U.S. Secretary of State Visit *[INTERFAX]* 87
U.S. Ambassador Denies Accord With Russians on Facilities *[Riga Radio]* 87
'No Progress' Achieved in Talks on Russian Army Withdrawal *[Riga Radio]* 87
Foreign Ministry Views Grachev's Withdrawal Announcement *[Riga Radio]* 87
IMF Team Arrives To Assist in Drafting Development Plan *[BNS]* 88

Lithuania

Deputy Defense Minister Tenders Resignation *[Vilnius Radio]* 88
'Mass Resignations' Rumored *[BNS]* 88
President Orders 'Every Effort' To Secure NATO Membership *[BNS]* 88
Germany's President Affirms Support for Lithuania *[Berlin ADN]* 89
Landsbergis Calls for 'National Policy' on Kaliningrad *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Oct]* 89
Brazauskas Remains 'Most Popular Politician' *[IZVESTIYA 21 Oct]* 89

Antimonopoly Committees Conference Ends in Almaty

LD2110143793 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 0525 GMT 21 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] A conference of the heads of the antimonopoly committees of the CIS countries has ended in Almaty. Fifteen amendments to laws on antimonopoly policy have been drafted. They envisage, in particular, the revoking of unlawful instructions by heads of administration of any level, a ban on the setting up of new monopoly structures during the process of lifting state controls, and the compulsory participation of the antimonopoly committee of the CIS countries in the drafting of government decisions on economic reform.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 21 Oct

LD2110080093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0600 GMT 21 Oct 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow October 21 ITAR-TASS—Newspapers focus their attention today on issues dealing with the beginning of an electoral campaign before the December elections and with the alignment of political forces in Russia.

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI carries an article by Anatoly Ivanov, head of the centre for socio-strategic studies, which is entitled "One Month Without Soviets". He sums up some of the preliminary results of the past month after President Yeltsin issued his decree No. 1400 of September 21. "Along with the liquidation of actual dual power in the country, one of the main factors promoting the disintegration of the country was eliminated too," Ivanov writes. The president got an opportunity to start putting out the fire of regional separatism, using "power methods", because this could ruin the Russian Federation as a single state. However, in the opinion of Ivanov, the current problems can be effectively tackled only after the adoption of a new constitution, in which a new form of state setup and the prerogatives of all branches of power will be recorded.

In the opinion of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, expressed in the article entitled "The Road to the Future Goes Across the Past", "a deep and dramatic split has taken place in the ruling nucleus of the democratic party." According to the newspaper, part of those politicians are positive that the "doctrinairism in politics is in the stage of a crisis." This is the reason for the holding of a founding congress and the creation of the Russian Party of Unity and Accord, led by Sergey Shakhray, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA believes.

Commenting on President Yeltsin's decree of October 19 "on some measures to ensure state and public security during the holding of the 1993 electoral campaign", KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes that the Russian All-National Union, led by Sergey Baburin, will probably become one of the organisations, around which activists and supporters of the National Salvation Front will rally, in order to be able to take part in the electoral campaign.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA frontpages an article, entitled "We Must Be Sure That the Authorities We Are Going To Elect Will Not Urge Us To Go to the Barricades." The author of the article, dealing with the electoral campaign, believes that "of all the state institutions the Army is, perhaps, more interested than anyone else in preventing extremism of all shades from penetrating the federal assembly." Life has proved on more than one occasion that it is the Army and the people that invariably pay for the "loyalty to principles," proclaimed by the irreconcilable.

"The deportation of non-Russians from Moscow may inflict serious damage on the Russian Federation and Russians outside its territory," NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes in an article, entitled "Should Russia Keep Its Doors Closed?" The nationalities problem may become a trump card in the political and economic life of Russia after the October developments, the newspaper points out. In addition, one should not forget that some nine million Russians are living in Central Asia and Kazakhstan alone, and "the deportation of Caucasians and Asians" from Moscow and other Russian cities, which intend to follow the example of the capital, will do little to improve the situation of Russians in the Caucasian and Central Asian Regions.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA publishes an article entitled "Ukraine Adopts Military Doctrine and, for the Time Being, Keeps Nuclear Missiles on Its Territory." According to the newspaper, the legislators voted for the military doctrine, under which Ukraine will seek to become a nuclear-free country in the future, but is linking this process with adequate steps of other nuclear powers. In the opinion of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, this stand, assumed by Ukraine, may be described as a "provisional nuclear status", because the parliament ruled that nuclear missiles, together with all other property of the former USSR, has become property of Ukraine.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries an interview with Major General Vitaliy Yakovlev, deputy chief of staff of the Main Administration of the Russian Defence Ministry, which is entitled "Echelon Is Still on Side Track. Ukraine Blocking Delivery of Unsafe Nuclear Weapons". In the opinion of Yakovlev, the Ukrainian side is obviously delaying the delivery to Russia of two unsafe nuclear missiles, which is actually another attempt to torpedo the implementation of the agreement on nuclear armaments, depl[illegible]ed in Ukraine, which was reached in the Crimea.

Press Review for 22 Oct

LD2210065893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0558 GMT 22 Oct 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow October 22 (ITAR-TASS)—Under the headline "Balkanisation' is increasing in Georgia. This is a serious threat for Russia too" the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper front-pages a commentary on haste with which that country wants to joint the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

Noting that the Georgian side besmeared with mud Russia during the Abkhazian war and that the Georgian leaders stressed their independence from Russia and other commonwealth nations in every way, showing their sympathies for the west, the newspaper puts the following question: "what is the explanation for Eduard Shevardnadze's present warm desire to see Georgia a member of the commonwealth after his previous inconsistent actions?"

The newspaper supplies the following reply: "the threat of 'balkanisation' is looming over the republic: Georgian ex-president Zviad Gamsakhurdia grabbed all western Georgia. Abkhazia is building fortifications on the bordder with Georgia and South Ossetia demonstrates its independence from Tbilisi. "The situation is deplorable," the newspaper continues, "and the Georgian leaders are ready to vote for the cis with both hands."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes at the same time that Russia cannot look indifferently at what is going on in Georgia. Interests of the Russian Federation prompted the Russian leaders to respond to Shevardnadze's request to send a military contingent to guard a strategic railway in Georgia.

The KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA newspaper carries a report from Tbilisi, describing the civil war in the republic. Noting that Russian warships lie on the roadstead of the Poti port and that opposition forces protest against their presence, the newspaper quotes their allegations that "Russia is again giving its military aid to its henchman Eduard Shevardnadze".

The TRUD newspaper features an interview with Russian Justice Minister Yuri Kalmykov claiming that it is necessary "to establish control of civil authorities" over procurator's supervision which levels accusations on behalf of the state.

Saying that the present laws on property and entrepreneurial activities contradict one another, he notes that an international conference on legal protection of entrepreneurial activities in russia will be held next February-March.

Experienced specialists will express recommendations at this forum. The minister stressed at the same time that the country needs a sweeping reform of the law enforcement system to fight successfully organised crime.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes in an interview with A. Kuntsevich, head of the committee on conventional problems of chemical and biological weapons under the Russian president, that, in compliance with the government's decision, "a federal purpose-oriented programme is being developed to destroy an industrial basis for the production of chemical weapons in Russia."

Pointing to the absence of any biological weapons stockpiles in the country, Kuntsevich said that programmes are being drafted to switch scientific centres which participated in military biological programmes, to general scientific activities on supplying population with effective medicines.

The same newspaper features an interview with Russian Deputy Finance Minister Alexander Pochinok, saying that military expenditures will be cut this year. The author advocates a "trimmed" budget for the country. However, it should cover all necessary state outlays, including those for military needs.

Lukin Ambitions, Christopher Visit Viewed

PM2110092793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 4

[Aleksandr Shalnev article: "Vladimir Lukin Remains Ambassador and Becomes Candidate"]

[Text] Vladimir Lukin, whose resignation from his post as ambassador was spoken of as virtually a fait accompli in Washington around a month ago, will remain ambassador. Although in all probability not for very long—until mid-December, until the elections to the Federal Assembly.

Lukin, who is currently in Moscow on a week's leave, which was in effect an official trip, has rejected the conjecture regarding his resignation as "newspaper rumor, canards, and possibly even intrigue." "There is no change and none is foreseen," he told me, adding that President Boris Yeltsin, whom the ambassador has not yet seen, made it supremely clear via his immediate aides that there is no "question about Lukin."

So the ambassador will return to his post in a few days. But he will be returning not merely as ambassador but as leader of a political election bloc and candidate for the post of Federal Assembly deputy. If Lukin is victorious in the elections, "exactly five minutes after the results are known I will decide" what to do about my ambassador's post. In other words, Lukin will resign his post in that case in order to wholly get down to lawmaking, although there is a presidential edict permitting the "amalgamation" of the legislative and executive branches of power.

"Motherland and Freedom" is the name that Lukin suggested for the bloc, which is led by, in addition to him, Grigoriy Yavlinskiy and Yuriy Boldyrev, uniting the Republican Party of Russia, the Social-Democratic Union, and the Christian-Democratic Party. The ambassador, who is, he says, "impressed by a number of Yavlinskiy's economic ideas, the ideas of enlightened patriotism," thinks that this name will be approved.

One of the reasons for Lukin's current vacation-cum-official trip to Moscow is to prepare for U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to Russia. The visit will be a short one—the secretary of state is flying in late Thursday evening and flying out Saturday—but full and intensive.

No surprises should be expected: As one prominent Foreign Ministry official remarked not without humor during a conversation with me, "what surprises can there be in relations between brothers?" But some questions that the Americans intend to raise will be pointed.

They include the following: What is the legal base for Russian-U.S. relations at the current stage, in conditions when there are still two months remaining until the parliamentary elections, and when Russia is being governed by presidential decree? As I understand it, the Americans will be interested in, for instance, the future of the Strategic Offensive Arms Treaty—START-2—signed during George Bush's presidency, but so far not ratified by either Russia or the United States. At least the United States has someone to ratify it—the Senate—but who do we have?

There will also be the question of those aspects of the political situation in Russia directly pertaining to guarantees and observance of democratic rights and freedoms. Several days ago after a visit to the United States I can attest that political and public circles are more and more noticeably puzzled that Russia has introduced a ban on the publication of certain newspapers and on the activity of a number of parties and organizations. The Americans are prepared to understand the reasons behind the Kremlin's move, but are not overly willing to agree to the decisions based on these reasons. Quite a lot of U.S. politicians think that retaining the bans will not create an atmosphere in Russia in which really free elections can be held.

In a very mild-mannered, albeit insistent way Warren Christopher's delegation will remind Boris Yeltsin, or rather people from his immediate entourage, that the Russian president specifically promised democratic and free elections, but I repeat, the reminder will be given in a very tactful way in order to, first, avoid accusations of interference in Russia's internal affairs and, second, not to place Boris Yeltsin in an awkward position since President William Clinton, who considers him a personal friend, is ready to support him in virtually everything.

The visit by Christopher, who, in addition to Russia, is to visit a number of other countries of the former Union, comes at a time of crisis. A crisis of foreign policy for the Clinton Administration, which is coming under increasing criticism in the United States for failures in Bosnia, Haiti, Somalia, and other parts of the world. The fact that there are already demands for Christopher to resign—in the United States itself, moreover, and among its West European allies—is an extremely serious sign. These demands, this criticism of the administration as a whole and the secretary of state in particular are increasingly frequently parried by references to the successes of its "Russian policy" based on support for the reform process and aid for the market economy in the former Union. You can imagine that, in order to more effectively ward off criticism of the administration, Warren Christopher will try to use the visit to strengthen this trump card, a visit which will be followed, incidentally, by visits to Russia in November and January by Vice President Albert Gore and President Clinton respectively.

Warren Christopher's Russia Visit Previewed

PM2110183793 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 7

[Yelena Ovcharenko report: "Secretary Coming to Visit Us"]

[Text] It's better to see for yourself.... So, in order to personally assess the situation in Moscow, U.S. Secretary

of State Warren Christopher is coming here on Thursday night. The trip has two purposes: to convince Russia and other states of the former USSR which possess nuclear weapons of the need to carry out their commitments in dismantling the weapons, and, apart from that, the chief U.S. diplomat wants to observe the "scene after the battle," that is, the recent confrontation between President Yeltsin and his opponents.

The trip will be a short one. Christopher intends to clarify to what extent the situation in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan can be related to President Clinton's possible initiatives in the sphere of further assistance to the economic reforms.

A commitment or even a firm promise from Washington to purchase for U.S. nuclear electric power stations the nuclear fuel which could be obtained as a result of the dismantling of the former USSR's nuclear missiles would act as an incentive to speed up the nuclear disarmament process and further economic reforms. According to American experts' assessments, the cost of the fuel would be $12 billion. Of this, approximately 10 billion would go to Russia, 1 billion to Ukraine, and the rest to Kazakhstan and Belarus. But, as the Russian Foreign Ministry gave me to understand, at the moment it is not expecting any surprise financial proposals from the secretary of state.

Official Comments on Visit

LD2110174693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1616 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Suprun]

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—The level of relations between the Russian Federation and the United States remains quite high, which is caused by the strategical interests of both countries rather than by some considerations of momentary advantage, Spokesman for the Russian Foreign Ministry Iosif Podrazhanets told TASS in connection with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's upcoming visit to Moscow.

According to the spokesman, Americans hardly view the recent events in Moscow as a ground for worsening relations with Russia. Therefore, the Russian diplomat expects the U.S. secretary of state and Russian high-ranking officials to meet for "serious talks on how they should build these relations at the present stage".

"Although we have not stipulated with our U.S. partners what issues are to be tackled at the talks, these issues are prompted by the present state of our relations", Podrazhanets noted. He suggested, in particualr, that the two sides would go ahead with preparations for a regular meeting of the commission headed by Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and U.S. Deputy Prime Minister [title as received] Albert Gore, which was set up during the Vancouver summit. The talks are also likely to consider issues concerning a proposed visit by U.S. President Bill Clinton to Russia. "The date for this visit has not yet been fixed, but President Clinton is known to have announced his readiness to visit Moscow next January", the Russian diplomat said.

In addition to it, Podrazhanets believes, Americans will be interested in the apprisal of the current situation in the country given by the Russian leadership, especialyy in the run-up to the forthcoming elections. He believes the two sides will also discuss the situation in some hot spots of the former Soviet Union, including in Georgia and at the Tajik-Afghan border. "I think problems of international relations will also be given attention at the talks, including those of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, settlement of a possible nuclear conflict and extension of NATO activities", the Foreign Ministry spokesman said in conclusion.

Preparations for Summit To Be Discussed

PM2110201993 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 22 Oct 93 p 1

[Pavel Shinkarenko report: "Talks in Moscow Will Be a Dialogue Between Friends, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher Considers"]

[Text] The U.S. secretary of state, the third ranking figure in the U.S. Administration, described the purpose of his visit in the following terms: "I am going to Moscow at a historic moment in order to confirm what President Clinton has already repeatedly stated in the past few months—support for democracy in Russia, the market reforms, and President Yeltsin."

But as the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI, this is only one of the subjects which the State Department chief intends to discuss with the Russian leadership. The central question in the talks will be preparations for a possible summit meeting between Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin, who, in Christopher's words, "are becoming good friends." As yet no specific date for the summit has been set, but it seems that the talks between the presidents may take place during the first half of January next year. A summit-level NATO session is taking place at about this time (around 10 January), and the U.S. President may combine his trip to Europe to participate in this forum with an official visit to Russia.

In his conversations with Boris Yeltsin and Viktor Chernomyrdin which are planned for this afternoon, and also during his talks with his colleague Andrey Kozyrev, our guest from Washington can be expected to express "concern" about the democratization process and the economic situation in Russia, something which Warren Christopher has mentioned more than once before his visit to Moscow. As a convinced supporter of rapprochement between the United States and Russia, he considers that "facilitating the democratic and market reforms in Russia is the most farsighted and least expensive investment that can be made to guarantee the United States'

security." As we know, it is customary in his country to be concerned about an investment's safety and return.

The U.S. secretary of state intends to set out in detail his concept of U.S.-Russian relations at the Academy of the National Economy, where it is planned that he will deliver a lecture to students and staff Saturday morning.

Secretary Christopher Arrives

LD2110190793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1750 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived in Moscow this evening on an official visit. During his two-day stay in Russia he will be received by Russian President Boris Yeltsin and by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. He will also have talks with Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and with other Russian state officials.

In an interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent before flying out from the United States, Warren Christopher said: "The talks coming up in Moscow will be a conversation between friends about what is going on in your country today." "I am setting off for Moscow," he said, "at an historic moment in order to confirm what President Clinton has been stating in recent months—support for democracy in Russia, market reforms, and President Yeltsin."

According to the U.S. secretary of state, preparation for a possible summit meeting between U.S. President Bill Clinton and RussiaN President Boris Yeltsin will be one of the central questions on the agenda for the talks in the Russian capital.

Chernomyrdin Meets Christopher

LD2210091893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0835 GMT 22 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow, 22 Oct—Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers, today received U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. Speaking to journalists on the results of their conversation, which lasted nearly an hour, Chernomyrdin reported that at the center of attention were questions of economic relations between Russia and the United States.

Answering the ITAR-TASS correspondent's question, Chernomyrdin stressed that the position adopted by the Russian Federation government with regards to establishing cooperation in the economic sphere remains unchanged. "We confirmed that we do not want to be beggars, just partners." According to the premier, the U.S. side understands this position.

Viktor Chernomyrdin added that during the conversation it was also stressed that the Government and the leadership of Russia did not and will not go back on the plans to carry out reforms in the country. On the question of the upcoming elections in Russia, Viktor Chernomyrdin stated that he did not ask for "U.S. aid to Russia to be extended in the next few weeks."

Warren Christopher reported to journalists that the second round of talks between U.S. Vice President Albert Gore and Viktor Chernomyrdin will take place on 15-17 December in Moscow. He also expressed the hope that before the close of its current session, the U.S. Congress will eventually adopt a decision to lift the restrictions on U.S. trade with Russia.

Kozyrev, Christopher Discuss Clinton Visit

LD2210104393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1018 GMT 22 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—Talks between Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher began here today.

ITAR-TASS has learned from sources within the Russian foreign Ministry that one of the main items on the agenda of the talks are preparations for President Clinton's visit to Russia. The U.S. President had expressed readiness to visit Moscow next January. The sides will also continue preparations for a regular meeting of the bilateral commission set up by decision of the presidents of the two countries, which is headed by Premier Chernomyrdin and Vice- President Gore.

The American side is displaying much interest in the Russian leadership's view on the situation in Russia, especially in connection with the upcoming elections. The talks will also touch on key problems of international relations, including the non- proliferation of nuclear weapons, expansion of NATO activities, withdrawal of Russian troops from Latvia and Estonia.

Stepping Up of U.S. Nuclear Submarine Patrols Criticized

PM2110133793 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Oct 93 p 3

[Observer Manki Ponomarev report: "United States Steps Up Patrols by Nuclear Submarines"]

[Text] The teleprinters in the editorial office carried a report which, it seemed, had come from the lamentable past, from times when politics and the actions of the leading powers were determined by conditions of the "cold war" and confrontation. What I am talking about is the fact that U.S. submarines armed with nuclear ballistic missiles are stepping up their combat patrols.

William Arkin and Robert Norris, well-known experts in the field of nuclear weapons, have been presenting the facts concerning this topic. Basing what they say on official information which has come into their possession, they published an article in the influential journal BULLETIN OF ATOMIC SCIENTISTS. In their article, they produce their own calculations, according to which it turns out that the U.S. nuclear fleet's level of combat readiness is now as much as 53 percent compared to 44 percent in the 1980's. Here the authors indicate that the level of combat readiness should be taken to be the time submarines spend at sea with their missiles ready to fire.

The fact that the U.S. nuclear submarines' combat readiness has been raised and their patrolling stepped up became particularly noticeable after the deployment of Ohio class nuclear submarines armed with the latest Trident-2 (D-5) ballistic missiles. After several land-based ICBM's and strategic bombers were taken off alert duty during George Bush's administration, the process was stepped up even more.

The article expressed the opinion that the present administration is also hiding the whole truth from the public. In the opinion of Arkin and Norris, which is again backed up by appropriate calculations, today there are far more nuclear warheads in a state of combat readiness than the 3,000 openly talked about which are targeted on facilities in Russia and other states of the former Soviet Union.

These are the facts. No denials have come from the official spokesmen of the White House, the Pentagon, and the Department of State, at least not yet. There is no particular need to explain what this means. Although you cannot talk of any threat to U.S. security coming from the Russian Federation and other CIS states, Washington is essentially pursuing the same nuclear strategy as before. A strategy which has lost all sense from the point of view of the national interests of the United States itself.

On this subject, the article's authors conclude that "to continue to maintain one's readiness to fight a nuclear war is an irrational policy." I think that this putting it too mildly. It is not only irrational but foolish. Such a policy is extremely dangerous —dangerous not only to other countries but also to the United States itself. To the whole world.

St. Louis Meeting Assesses Economies' Needs

PM2110100593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Oct 93 First Edition p 9

[Vladimir Nadein report: "In the Woods With an Injured Bear"]

[Text] Washington—**Five Pieces of Advice That the Americans Give the Russians**

1. If Russia and the other CIS countries do not adopt new norms in the near future to clearly regulate ownership, taxes, and tariffs, investments must be expected to fall.

2. The U.S. elite is at a crossroads in assessing the recent Kremlin and Russian White House battle. Businessmen and legislators are clearly more skeptical than their administration in assessing Boris Yeltsin's reforms and his commitment to democracy, although they would be delighted to acknowledge their mistake.

3. All reserves of material aid at U.S. government level are practically exhausted. Russia should no longer expect more investment from the U.S. purse.

4. The United States—both the government and private business—sees the solution for Russia not in stopping but in radicalizing reforms. Price liberalization, the curbing of inflation, privatization, and private land ownership are seen as a token that business cooperation will expand.

5. Russia remains an extremely attractive sphere for capital investment—only not now, but in the not-too-near future.

Those are the conclusions drawn at a conference in the U.S. city of St. Louis, to which guests from the CIS were invited and which discussed the possibilities of economic cooperation with the countries of the former Union.

People with no money advocated the necessity and desirability of investing capital in the economy of Russia (Ukraine, Belarus). Politicians did likewise. As for the people with money, they preferred to wait and keep quiet.

It is simply absurd to demand money from politicians. Influence is their capital. Three influential senators, the leader of the Democrat majority in the House of Representatives, the future leader (according to reliable rumors) of the Republican minority, and a number of other congressmen worthily represented the legislators.

The administration team was led by Strobe Talbott, the chief architect of White House policy toward the new independent states. In form his appeal was addressed to us, but in essence it was aimed at U.S. business. "We tell the Russians, Ukrainians, etc. that at present the big money is not in the U.S. Treasury but in the U.S. private sector." Although Talbott admitted that there are plenty of artificial barriers in the way of free trade, he mainly appealed to his compatriots' "acumen" by saying that supporting reforms in the former Soviet Union means investing "in our own (that is, U.S.) future in the most commercial and economic sense."

U.S. Deputy Finance Secretary Laurence Summers said the same thing, but from a different angle. He began his speech with an "old Russian proverb" which, according to the verbatim translation, reads as follows: "You do not want to stay in the woods with an injured bear."

Although I could find no equivalent in the anthology of Russian proverbs, the point of Summers' warning is clear.

No one was in any doubt over the conference's main thesis: The economy will decide the future of democracy in the countries of the former Union. Ambassador Talbott put it like this: "Karl Marx was wrong hellishly often, but he was right about the importance of economic relations, and Boris Yeltsin knows that."

Uran Abdunasyrov, a businessman from Kyrgyzstan, said the following in St. Louis with winning bluntness: "Come and visit us; we are the new Klondike."

An American asked: "What kind of Klondike do you have: a late-19th century or late-20th century Klondike?" Everyone but the Kyrgyz laughed. It is not only that Western businessmen are horrified at our hotels, our airports, our telephones, and our crime situation. It is not only that forms of ownership are confused, bureaucracy is ponderous, and the highest officials are unobliging.

The main thing, participants said, is that Westerners will not work against the law, but it is simply impossible to work in accordance with Russian law. It is so confused and contradictory and contains such flaws and snares that many Westerners have the impression that things are specially designed that way.

Natural competition is penetrating deeper and deeper into the former fraternal union republics. A fight for Western subsidies is under way—subsidies of which Russia receives more than its neighbors.

On one occasion this erupted in an angry move from a Belarusian representative, who did not just insult but sharply criticized his hosts, who are blinded, in his opinion, by an exaggerated idea of Russia's crucial role.

Once again there were pleasant—albeit natural to us—admissions that the CIS is not the Third World but something quite separate. Or, as Senator Bill Bradley said, "the former Union is not made up of developing states; it comprises states that are quite developed—only wrongly."

Professor Douglas North of St. Louis' Washington University cooled this elation, almost akin to euphoria. An economist, awarded the Nobel Prize just two days before the conference opened, Prof. North delivered a brief speech that deserves to be reprinted:

"Allow me to start by making the sobering assertion that it took the West 500 years to develop a set of regulations, institutions, and norms of behavior, which have, it transpires, produced a high level of income.

"You must be effective. You must have rights guaranteeing security of ownership, a legal system capable of creating laws and ensuring their implementation. This requires you to have judges who will settle disputes impartially.

"What is more—and this is something that economists prefer to ignore—that order of things must be seen as honest and just. It must be seen as a system in which opportunities are open to everyone, in which one man does not exploit another, in which political honesty and economic justice exist. And that is indeed a difficult task.

"You must not only have reliable regulations and strive to implement them. We economists can easily suggest a line of action to you. However, you will have to acquire this knowledge yourselves and spend plenty of time on it. What I see as one of the reasons for the failures of my fellow economists in East and Central Europe, as well as in the Third World, is the fact that they religiously believe that correct prices must be fixed within a required space of time—that is, price and wage control must be eliminated—and everything else will fall at our feet.

"It has become clear that this is wrong. Economists think that economic transformations are the main thing. You must secure political stability, secure a sense of justice in the system."

U.S. TV Specialists Examine Election Coverage Plans

LD2110183993 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 21 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] A group of U.S. specialists on TV coverage of elections held a news conference at the Russian-American press center today. During their stay in Moscow, the Americans have held a number of meetings with the management of the "Rossiya" TV and Radio Company and the Ministry of Press and Information. They feel that Russia still has no concept of how an election campaign should be covered. The precise manner in which all political parties will be granted equal opportunities on TV is still not clear.

According to the participants in the news conference, the principle that broadcasting companies should be independent is more important than the interests of individual political forces. They believe that, as the elections approach, Russia must draw up its own way of using TV's distinctive technical potential to consolidate democratic values and to develop democratic institutions.

Kozyrev Views Talks With France's Leotard

LD2110141293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1331 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents]

[Text] Paris October 21 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said that the military doctrines of both Russia and France should base on the principle of "reasonable sufficiency in the absence of a strong potential enemy".

However, he warned against an entirely new type of threat faced by national armies—ethnic and internal wars, terrorism and illegal arms trade.

Kozyrev, addressing reporters after his meeting with French Defence Minister Francois Leotard on Thursday, stressed the necessity to work out mechanisms to respond to the danger which creates wide opportunities for cooperation between diplomats and servicemen of Russia and France.

The Russian and French ministers have discussed issues of European security, situation in the Balkans and Caucasus, the future of former Soviet nuclear weapons, as well as the preparation of a new military doctrine in Russia and the France's "National defence White Paper".

Further on Talks

LD2210071593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1535 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Andrey Krasnoshchekov, Yuriy Lopatin, Viktor Khrekov, and Igor Shchegolev]

[Text] Paris, 21 Oct—European security problems, the situation in the Balkans and the Caucasus, and the fate of the former USSR's nuclear arsenal, were discussed at a meeting today between Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and Francois Leotard, French minister of state for defense. The Russian minister is in Paris on an official visit.

The special feature of the current talks is that, in France a "white paper on national defense issues" is now being prepared, in which the security strategy and prospects for the organizational structure of the national armed forces will be defined, while in Russia the formulation of a military doctrine is nearing completion, A. Kozyrev said in an interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent. He stressed that the two countries' positions on these problems are very close on the whole. In both cases, the determining factor is the need to maintain the national armed forces on a level of reasonable sufficiency in the absence of a major potential enemy, the Russian minister stressed.

At the same time, he pointed to the existence of threats of a completely new type—ethnic and internal wars, terrorism, and arms proliferation, which calls for the fashioning of new mechanisms for responding to these threats. This creates a very broad sphere for cooperation between the two countries' diplomats and military men in resolving the practical questions of how many weapons are realistically sufficient for such great powers as Russia and France, and for what purposes, A. Kozyrev said. The Russo-French alliance concluded 100 years ago was directed against third countries, primarily against Germany, whereas now it is not directed against anyone. On the contrary, Germany is, by and large, a party to the alliance. Even so, it cannot not be said that the task of joint defense—against new dangers now—is less topical in the new conditions that have taken shape in the continent of Europe, he noted in conclusion.

We attach particular importance to A. Kozyrev's current visit to Paris, since the centenary of the conclusion of the Russo-French Entente Cordiale is being marked this year, F. Leotard said. "From our viewpoint," he stressed, "it may help to establish closer ties between the peoples, as well as the governments, of the two countries, and to bring about a situation in which they rediscover one another's historical, cultural, and spiritual treasures. This aim is also being considerably furthered by the exhibition "The Tsars and the Republic" that is now on in Paris.

The French defense minister noted that matters connected with preparations for the official visit to Moscow by French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, scheduled for early November, was discussed during the Paris talks. F. Leotard also announced that he will be having a meeting with Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev early next year, in which "the Russo-French dialogue on problems of ensuring European security will be continued."

Departs Paris for Moscow

LD2110212293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1958 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By unidentified ITAR-TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Paris, 21 Oct—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev left Paris for Moscow by plane this evening. He had been in the French capital on a two-day visit, during which time he met French President Francois Mitterand, Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, and Foreign and Defense Ministers Alain Juppe and Francois Leotard.

On Wednesday [20 October] Kozyrev and Juppe signed Russian- French agreements on cooperation in the dismantling of nuclear weapons and providing safe and reliable transport of nuclear weapons in Russia.

Kozyrev's visit to France marked the 100th anniversary of the conclusion of the Russian-French military-political alliance. Today the Russian minister visited the "Tsars and the Republic" exhibition, put on to mark this well-known date at the National Museum of the French Armed Forces.

Sides Welcome Continuation of 100-Year Franco-Russian Tie

PM2110140793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 2

[Pavel Shinkarenko report under "The World and Us" rubric: "Alliance for the Sake of Stability in Europe. This Is Andrey Kozyrev's Assessment of the Present Role of the 100-Year-Old Russian-French Military Alliance"]

[Excerpt] Festivities have begun in Paris and will soon be continued in Moscow and St. Petersburg. The centennial

of the Russian-French military-political alliance is being celebrated. Another round of diplomatic consultations is being pegged to this event, and Russian Federation Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev went to Paris 20 October to participate in them. French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur is expected in Moscow at the beginning of November.

Russian-French rapprochement was promoted 100 years ago by the deterioration in St. Petersburg's relations with Berlin and Vienna, the threat of a German attack on France, and also the differences between both countries and Britain. The legal basis was provided by three agreements concluded in 1891-93 under which Russia and France pledged to help each other in the event of an attack on them by Germany or its allies. There were major economic motives in addition to political ones. French capital was widespread in the Russian empire; in 1887 the Russian Government obtained the first loans from Paris, and France subsequently became Russia's chief creditor.

But should the ashes of a long-extinguished fire be stirred up? The world has changed, and the countries participating in those events have since repeatedly joined quite opposite blocs.

It turns out that they should. "What is customarily called the Franco-Russian alliance came into being during the period from 1887 through 1893," French Prime Minister Balladur emphasized recently. "It was founded on the profoundly complementary nature of our two countries. A mutual interest between our cultures also came into being during that period. It was a period of French in the Russian novel and of Russian press interest in French life." The head of the Russian Foreign Ministry looks at the anniversary from a different viewpoint. "A special feature of the present alliance—you could call it an entente cordiale," he emphasized in conversation with journalists, "consists in the fact that we preserve the traditional attachment and sympathies, the traditional closeness in the sphere of culture and also of certain geopolitical interests of Russia and France. Not against any country, still less Germany, but for the sake of strengthening stability in Europe." [passage omitted]

Kozyrev Comments on Georgian Call For Army's Help

PM2110134993 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 1

[Pavel Shinkarenko report under "Foreign Ministry Viewpoint" rubric: "Russia Could Come to Georgia's Assistance.... But Only with the Participation of Other CIS Countries and at the Request of Tbilisi"]

[Text] During the night of 18-19 October Eduard Shevardnadze appealed to Russia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan for assistance in connection with the development of events in Georgia and the actions of ex-President Zviad Gamsakhurdia. Commenting on this fact, Boris Pastukhov, the Russian Federation president's special representative and deputy minister of foreign affairs, told INTERFAX that Shevardnadze's statement "will not be disregarded."

Andrey Kozyrev expressed the Foreign Ministry's position more precisely when he met with journalists after talks with Swedish Minister and CSCE Chairman Margaretha af Ugglas. The head of Russian diplomacy believes that it is necessary to take "effective measures to ensure the security of the Poti-Tbilisi road." According to the minister, since the Georgian leader's appeal was addressed to the CIS, possible "action is now being considered in Russia, in the Transcaucasian republics, and in other Commonwealth states." Will Russia send its troops to Georgia? Answering this question, Andrey Kozyrev said that this problem was discussed at Boris Yeltsin's recent meeting with the presidents of the three Transcaucasian republics. "Principled approaches were outlined then," he pointed out. "Their essence is that nobody intends to interfere in internal affairs or in the civil war in Georgia, but it is necessary to ensure the defense of the Poti-Tbilisi road. This road is a 'lifeline' for Tbilisi, for the Russian military units stationed in Georgia, and also for Baku and Yerevan." As the minister said, "it is in the interests of all four states to defend the road and ensure the uninterrupted delivery of freight along it."

"It is now a question of drawing up specific measures to resolve this task. Tough measures will probably be required. But it is not a question of unilateral military interference by Russia. It is a question of an operation with the participation of, and at the request of, the Transcaucasian states themselves and the supreme government of Georgia," Andrey Kozyrev emphasized.

Troops Will Assist Georgia To Keep Railroad Open

LD2110133093 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1200 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] The Russian Foreign Ministry has reported that in connection with an appeal by Eduard Shevardnadze, the head of the Republic of Georgia, on rendering assistance in ensuring the uninterrupted functioning of the railway between Poti-Kutaisi-Tbilisi-Yerevan-Baku and delivering freight and other goods via it, the Russian side will allocate manpower and resources from the composition of the group of forces in the Transcaucasus to be used jointly with Georgian, Armenian, and also Azerbaijani subunits in this peacemaking action. These joint actions cannot be regarded as interference in internal affairs of another independent state, the report of the Russian Foreign Ministry stresses.

Transcaucasian Group of Forces Denies Involvement in Georgia

LD2110183293 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 21 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Colonel Dolgachev, head of the Transcaucasian Group of Russian Forces press center, today refuted reports that Russian servicemen are taking part in combat actions on the side of Georgian Government troops, says the NeGa agency.

Defense Ministry Does Not Confirm Military Aid to Georgia

LD2110213193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2012 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] A Russian Defense Ministry spokesman declined to confirm a report of the Georgian Defense Ministry that Russian troops are helping Georgian forces unblock the Poti-Tbilisi railway.

Vladimir Kosarev, head of the Russian Defense Ministry's information and press department, told INTERFAX on Thursday that the only information he had was that the Russian forces stationed in Georgia remained in their areas of permanent deployment.

Kosarev said Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, at a news conference in Helsinki on Wednesday, firmly ruled out the possibility of any military Russian involvement in the internal armed conflict in Georgia. Grachev also said Russia and Georgia had no agreements on mutual military assistance.

Ukraine Navy Chief's Assurances on Black Sea Fleet Noted

PM2110095193 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Oct 93 p 3

[Vladimir Maryukha report: "New Ukrainian Navy Commander in Favor of Civilized Relations With Black Sea Fleet. However, Vice Admiral Vladimir Bezkorovaynyy Will First Have To Make Considerable Changes to his Department"]

[Text] It will first and foremost be necessary to resolve the question of financing the building of the Ukrainian fleet. The point is that over the past 10.5 months Ukraine has allocated the Black Sea Fleet credits for 24.5 percent of its total expenditure. The proportion of it is being steadily reduced and in September, for example, it amounted to only 6.8 percent. The Ukrainian Navy "is being fed"—in the direct and indirect sense of the word—using deductions from the Black Sea Fleet's budget. According to a report by Colonel A. Zhukov, chief of the Black Sea Fleet's financial service, some 2,688 million karbovantsi have been spent on food purchases alone for 26 Ukrainian military units. Other items of expenditure include capital construction, customs duty, fuel purchase, and so on.

From the organizational point of view, Vladimir Bezkorovaynyy will come up against the, to put it mildly, indiscipline of the Ukrainian marines who began their own "privatization of the Black Sea Fleet" by attacking a tank regiment and "sinking to" committing excesses with firearms in Balaklava.

All in all, recalling that he at one time served alongside Black Sea Fleet Commander Admiral Eduard Baltin, Vladimir Bezkorovaynyy intends to cut out the "hostility in relations with the Black Sea Fleet which has built up over the years." He stated this in his first interview after being appointed.

Ukraine Accused of 'Foot-Dragging' Over Missiles

PM2110155593 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 1

[Statement by Major General Vitaliy Yakovlev, deputy chief of staff of the Russian Defense Ministry Main Directorate, in reply to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA question: "The Train is Still in the Siding: Ukraine is Blocking the Departure of Nuclear Munitions in Pre-Accident Condition"]

[Text] As is well known, Russia and Ukraine have reached agreement on the transfer of nuclear munitions to the territory of the Russian Federation where they will be dismantled. But the fulfillment of this accord is being constantly complicated for purely formal reasons. What is the situation today?

Maj. Gen. Vitaliy Yakovlev, deputy chief of staff of a Russian Defense Ministry Main Directorate, now answers that question for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

I think that our partners are simply forgetting what kind of weapons these are and how they should be handled. We have received a telegram in which they propose renegotiating with the Russian Government the transfer of the defective nuclear warheads to Russian territory. Even though back on 3 September an intergovernmental agreement was signed on transferring strategic nuclear munitions to Russian territory with subsequent compensation to Ukraine for the fissionable materials that they contain. But that agreement is being disregarded.

What is the reason for the particular attention that is being paid to these nuclear warheads? At some stage in the past they were scrapped. There was a fault in their automatic mechanism. We are talking about munitions in a faulty condition which could be characterized as a pre-accident condition. They were loaded into a freight car and are now uncovered and outside normal storage conditions, so to speak. These two munitions were destined to be transferred to Russian industrial enterprises where they would be dismantled and the causes of the defect diagnosed. That they are defective is indicated

by a change in the gas environment within the container [vnutri obyema]. But this is not without danger to service personnel. Despite all this the departure of the train has been held up now since 5 October for purely formal reasons even though back on 8 September Ukraine confirmed its acceptance of the terms of the nuclear materials shipments.

What are the Ukrainian side's complaints? We have been informed that formally these are customs complaints. The documents have not been properly completed, it seems. But what have documents to do with it when all the terms for the transfer of the nuclear munitions were stipulated in a government-level agreement back in April 1992. Under that agreement the transfer of the nuclear munitions across the border is to be effected without hindrance by either side. And they are not to be subject to customs inspection. This is a clear case of foot-dragging over the departure of the train and essentially another attempt to jeopardize the implementation of the agreement reached in Crimea. It turns out that the Ukrainian side is simply trying to extract some political advantage from this. But the most interesting thing is that to a certain extent this also undermines Ukraine's prestige in the eyes of the international community.

What dangers are there in this situation? First, the system of ensuring the safety of the munitions is violated. The most vulnerable area here today is in transport. When ammunition is transferred from a protected storage facility to a means of transport it naturally becomes more vulnerable to the influence of various factors. And second, it must be borne in mind that these are defective munitions. They need special handling. The longer Ukraine drags its feet the greater the risk that they will require extra work. This is because munitions with deviations and alterations in the environment within the container are dismantled not according to the regulation method but in a special way devised by the chief designer and carried out in exceptionally rigorous conditions.

In my view, such an attitude in general is criminal. Not to mention the attitude toward the people who have been on board the train in a state of complete uncertainty since 5 October and what is more have been left to fend for themselves.

'No Tangible Results' in Talks With Latvia

MK2110135593 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 21 Oct p 3

[Viktor Zamyatin, Sergey Tsekhmistrenko report: "Results of Russian-Latvian Talks. Russia Proposed Solving All Problems in a Single Package"]

[Text] The 10th round of Russian-Latvian talks ended in Moscow yesterday evening. Right at their completion, Sergey Zotov, head of the Russian delegation, told your KOMMERSANT-DAILY correspondent that the tense atmosphere of the Moscow round was caused by "the sides' approaching the final lap," and the "resulting responsibility prevailing over them." While the round brought no tangible results (not a single agreement was signed), documents were drawn up providing for cooperation in the field of transport and on encouragement and protection of investments.

According to Sergey Zotov, the main problem in bilateral relations—a timetable for the withdrawal of Russian troops from Latvian territory—remained unresolved. In the opinion of Russian experts, the conditions and infrastructure for their redeployment will only be in place in Russia by the end of 1994. Upon the solution of this question also depends the conclusion of a corresponding treaty, and the provision of guarantees of social protection to retired servicemen and their families. Importantly, Russia intends to look into all the problems in a single package, and only following their solution will it be prepared to extend to Latvia most favored status in trade. Zotov recalled in this connection that in accordance with Boris Yeltsin's directive, economic questions cannot be solved in isolation from social problems including those of the rights of Latvia's Russian-speaking population.

The men in Riga disagree with this, just as they disagree with Russia's proposals on joint use of the space object tracking center (30 km of the city of Ventspils), the radar station near the town of Skrunde, and the Baltic Fleet naval station in Liepaja (along with the base with a ship repair yard). Moscow proceeds from the fact that the first two facilities ensure Russia's strategic security in the northwestern sector. High-ranking Defense Ministry experts do not rule out that the tracking center may interest even NATO since the United States alone has a similar system. As for the naval port in Liepaja, "Russia does not intend to part with something it took her almost 200 years to build," besides, nearly a third of the Baltic Fleet is based there. The men in Riga, however, think that, since Latvia's security is not threatened directly by anyone, there is no need for the presence of the above facilities on its territory—they should be dismantled concurrently with the withdrawal of the troops.

The next round of talks in Riga in mid-November may yield more tangible results. It is not ruled out that it would also discuss Mr. Zotov's proposal on the joint use of Latvian ports.

Shokhin, Belarusian Counterpart Sign Protocol on Ruble Zone

LD2110173293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1425 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Belarus will amend its legislation on the formation of a ruble zone of a new type. The government delegations of Russia and Belarus led by deputy premiers Aleksandr Shokhin and Vladimir Zalomay signed on Thursday [21 October] a protocol on

a mixed commission recording slight discrepancies in the Belarusian legislation on forming the ruble zone of a new type.

Upon the signing of the Russian-Belarusian protocol, Russian Deputy Premier Aleksandr Shokhin told reporters the Belarusian side had notified the Russian side that amendments to the Belarusian legislation on forming the ruble zone of a new type will be submitted to the next session.

On September 7, 1993 in Moscow, an agreement on forming a ruble zone of a new type was signed by Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Armenia. Under the agreement, the republics undertake to have a common monetary system with the use of the Russian ruble, to conduct a coordinated policy to unify the fundamental principles of customs, tax, budget, banking and currency legislations and methods of monetary-crediting regulation and to ensure free movement of goods, investment and labour between the territories of the parties.

Government Statement on China's Nuclear Test

LD2110181193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1650 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, 21 Oct, (ITAR-TASS)—The Russian Government has expressed deep regret over the underground nuclear weapons test conducted by China.

A statement issued today says that this step by China was undertaken at a time when a truly unique opportunity had come about in the world to put a stop, once and for all to nuclear tests in the very near future. The appeals by many states, including Russia, not to interrupt the lull that has set in of late on the nuclear test- ranges of all countries were thus ignored, the statement says.

Russia initiated the trilateral moratorium on nuclear tests, which Britain and China observed de facto, too. Taking this decision, Russia was exclusively guided by a desire to contribute to maintaining favorable conditions for starting multilateral talks in the near future aimed at developing a treaty on a comprehensive ban on nuclear tests under efficient international control. Against this background, the resumption of nuclear tests by China cannot but have a negative effect on international efforts in this field.

In this situation, the Russian Government states its intention to continue to observe the moratorium on nuclear tests and calls on other nuclear states to do the same. At the same time, Russia reserves a right to revise its decision on the moratorium if the situation in this sphere continues to develop unfavorably, the statement says.

'Text' of Statement

LD2210104593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1710 GMT 21 Oct 93

["Russian Government Statement in Connection with the PRC's Conducting of the Underground Testing of a Nuclear Weapon (Text)"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Oct—The Government of the Russian Federation has issued a statement saying:

The Government of the Russian Federation expresses deep regret over the underground test of a nuclear weapon conducted by the People's Republic of China. It is noteworthy that this step was undertaken at a time when a truly unique opportunity had come about in the world to put a stop in the very near future once and for all to all nuclear tests. The appeals by many states, including Russia, not to interrupt the lull that has set in of late on the nuclear test-ranges of all countries were thus ignored.

Russia initiated the trilateral moratorium on nuclear tests which Britain and China have also observed de facto. Moreover, it is common knowledge that the silence on our test-range has already lasted for some three years. On 5 July 1993, the president of the Russian Federation signed a decree extending the period of the moratorium until such time as the moratorium declared by other states possessing nuclear weapons is observed by them de jure or de facto.

When making this decision, the Russian Federation was guided exclusively by a desire to help to maintain favorable conditions for starting multilateral talks in the near future aimed at drawing up a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty under efficient international control. It is thanks to this and also to the important positive changes in the positions adopted by the United States and France in this matter that very favorable conditions for advancing this task toward implementation have taken shape.

On 10 August 1993, the disarmament conference adopted by a consensus shared by the PRC too the fundamental decision to start multilateral talks on drawing up a verifiable comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. The decision was regarded in our country and throughout the world with great satisfaction.

Against this background, the resumption of nuclear tests by the PRC cannot but have a negative effect on the international efforts in this field. Many people are now naturally asking whether the Chinese explosion will give rise to a retaliatory response from the other nuclear powers, thereby complicating the preparation of a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty.

In this situation, the Government of the Russian Federation states its intention to continue to observe the moratorium on nuclear tests and calls on other nuclear states to do the same.

At the same time, the Russian Federation reserves the right to reconsider its decision on the moratorium if the situation in this sphere continues to develop unfavorably.

The incipient multilateral negotiating process on drawing up a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty must not be a hostage to anyone's ambitions or hasty decisions.

All peoples have an interest in the rapid banning of all nuclear tests.

Aircraft Firms Display New Wares at Beijing Exhibition

LD2110185893 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0600 GMT 21 Oct 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Today is the 70th anniversary of the first flight by an aircraft designed by the outstanding aircraft designer Andrey Tupolev. Tupolev planes have proved themselves not just at home but also abroad, especially in China, where they are widely used.

[Correspondent Vladimir Kulikov in China] Thirty firms and associations, including Aviaprom, Aviaeksport, the Saratov, Voronezh, Michurinsk plants and other enterprises, represent the Russian aircraft industry here. The products they brought with them to Beijing this time are not entirely traditional products. Conversion is in full swing at our aircraft plants. Naturally, this has had an impact on the goods on offer here. For instance, the Saratov components production association is offering refrigerators, television sets, welding equipment and woodworking machines for the Chinese market. The Michurinsk aircraft plant has already sold over 1,000 high-precision metal lathes to China. The directors of this and other enterprises told me that this is the only way they can maintain employment at their plants.

[Unidentified official] Today we are displaying new aircraft on offer to the Chinese market. These include the Il-96M, Il-96, Tu-204 and Tu-334, as well as the Il-114 which, after certification, is expected to go on the market in 1994-95. Furthermore, there has been very extensive cooperation in research and development work. During these years, basically, we have signed contracts for research and development work worth roughly $70 million.

Greenpeace Monitoring of 'Scandalous' Nuclear Dumping Noted

PM2210093793 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0600 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By Oleg Padenko; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Our correspondent has managed to find out some details about the discharge of radioactive waste by Pacific Fleet vessels into the Sea of Japan.

[Padenko over video of naval officer on a warship, views of various warships decked out with flags.] There is no footage of the actual discharge operation. Journalists are not allowed on such scandalous trips. However, the might of the Pacific Fleet is such that it constantly has to rid itself of waste, including radioactive waste resulting from the recharging of nuclear submarines.

The chosen dumping site was located 105 miles south of Vladivostok and almost 300 miles from Hokkaido. The operation was authorized by the Russian Ministry of Ecology because a critical quantity of dangerous waste had accumulated on shore, but the Greenpeace international organization was not napping. Risking arrest by the Border Guard, the crew of one of its ships monitored the discharge of the heavy liquid and registered a 10-fold increase in the level of radiation around the tanker TNT-27. Despite assurances by Navy people that the discharged water has been purified to drinking water standard, they themselves are not using it for the fleet's day-to-day requirements. Meanwhile it is expected that a tanker with another batch of waste will put to sea at any moment. The defense department has declared that 20,000 cubic meters of waste will continue to be discharged annually off the Pacific coast.

All this has caused serious concern in countries neighboring on Russia.

[Announcer] We have just received news that Russia will not be discharging a second batch of radioactive waste into the Sea of Japan.

Japanese 'Experts' Comment

LD2110105493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0921 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Bantin]

[Text] Tokyo October 21 TASS—In connection with Russia's dumping liquid low-toxic waste into the Sea of Japan Japanese experts said in an interview with ITAR-TASS that the October 16 discharge of radioactive waste into the Sea of Japan poses no threat to Japan.

Executive Director of the Japanese Nuclear Industrial forum, Kazuhisa Mori, said that Russia's dumping radioactive waste causes no problem from the point of view of radiation safety.

The same opinion was expressed an a TASS interview by an expert of the Japanese Department for Ecology and Natural Calamities, Hitoshi Miyata. He said that Moscow had informed the Japanese Government that in the period between 1959 and 1992 the former Soviet Union and Japan had discharged such a quantity of radioactive waste that its total radiation level reached 12,300 curies.

Today, at issue is as an extremely small figure—an overall radiation level expected after Russia's planned dumping into the sea this time does not exceed 2 curies. Since the expected radiation level is as low as that any negative influence exercised by nuclear dumping on Japan's ecology or the health of its citizens is out of the question, the Japanese expert said.

He reminded of the fact that earlier, Japan itself had discharged low-toxic waste into the Sea of Japan.

Tadashi Nagakura, expert of the Central Energy Institute and member of a group of experts studying ecological consequences of the discharge of law-toxic waste into the Sea of Japan from Japanese nuclear reactors, said that "in principle, Russia's dumping low- toxic waste into the Sea of Japan poses no threat."

Chernomyrdin Suspends Dumping

LD2110114493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1130 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Veronika Romanenkova]

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS— Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin has decided to suspend the second dumping of nuclear waste from a navy tanker into the Sea of Japan, Environment Minister Viktor Danilov-Danilyan told a news conference on Thursday [21 October].

Assistance Needed in Nuclear Waste Processing

LD2110133793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1307 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Veronika Romanenkova]

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Russia banned another dumping of low radioactive waste in the Sea of Japan and urged Japan and other countries to help construct a plant to process the waste.

"Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin adopted a decision to stop the second dumping of radioactive waste from a navy tanker in the Sea of Japan", Environment Minister Viktor Danilov-Danilyan told a press conference on Thursday.

On October 16 Russia dumped 900 cubic metres of nuclear waste in the Sea of Japan some 100 kilometres south of the port of Nakhodka.

"Although the total radioactivity level of the waste (dumped on October 16) was inconsiderable the practice of dumping liquid radioactive waste in sea cannot be approved", Danilov-Danilyan said.

The environment minister urged Japan and other foreign countries to help construct a plant in the Far East to solidify the liquid waste which can be then buried underground.

He added that even if Russia stops using its nuclear submarines their reactors would continue to produce nuclear waste for several years to come.

The construction of a processing enterprise will demand some 10 billion roubles (over eight million dollars), according to the minister who said that the government of the country can find the finances.

However, "we firmly count on the promised assistance of other countries, including Japan", Danilov-Danilyan said.

In the meantime, 800 cubic metres of nuclear waste remaining onboard the TNT-27 navy tanker in the Far East are being pumped to another tanker for storage. The TNT-27 was overfilled with the waste, its hull is in an emergency state and even the slightest storm could have resulted in an ecological catastrophe.

Minister on Radioactive Waste

LD2110164493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1426 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Viktor Danilov-Danilian, Environment and Natural Resource Protection Minister, told journalists Thursday that there would not be another dumping of radioactive wastes in the Sea of Japan any time soon. He explained that the pumping of the wastes from the TNT-5 tanker which was in disrepair and the subsequent dumping in the Sea of Japan October 16th prevented a disaster.

The minister said that the total radioactivity did not exceed 1.08 Curie and would have no ecological impact on the area, where no trace of radioactivity could be found.

He will instruct his subordinates shortly to calculate the costs of constructing a liquid radioactive waste processing plant.

"We expect aid from other countries," the minister said. In his words, a total of 10 Bn rubles would be needed.

Japan's Reaction Queried

LD2110165093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1426 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow is prepared to discontinue the dumping of radioactive wastes in the Sea of Japan and other waters, but it needs money and technologies to make this possible, a senior Russian Foreign Ministry official told INTERFAX Thursday [21 October].

He confirmed that Russian and Japanese experts are scheduled to meet soon to discuss this issue. "The Japanese concern is understandable, but don't forget that the dumping took place much closer to the Russian than to the Japanese coast," the diplomat said.

In his view, Tokyo's "stormy reaction" to the dumping of liquid wastes in the Sea of Japan by a Russian tanker is largely the consequence of a propaganda campaign mounted by the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

The Russian official thinks that the LDP seizes every opportunity to harass the Morihiro Hosakawa government.

"The radioactive waste dumping immediately after the Tokyo visit of President Boris Yeltsin was a windfall for

the LDP. Its target is the ruling coalition rather than Russia. True, if the LDP were in power, the opposition would be saying what the LDP is saying now," the diplomat said.

He thinks that the Russian action became an issue in Japan's political life. "As a result, a pistol was amplified to the blast made by a barrage of artillery," he said.

Japans Hata Pleads With Kozyrev

PM2110150393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 3

[Sergey Agafonov report: "Japanese Are Irritable. Russian Fleet Waits for Signal To Act"]

[Text] Tokyo—The saga of the dumping of Russian radioactive waste in the Sea of Japan, which our newspaper has discussed in detail, is turning into a major international scandal. Hopes of lowering the pitch and soothing passions collapsed after a report from Vladivostok that the Russian Navy is planning another operation to discharge radioactive waste into the sea Wednesday [20 October].

Early Wednesday morning Japanese Foreign Minister Hata telephoned Andrey Kozyrev and spent 20 minutes persuading, asking, and demanding that he stop the planned dumping operation. Hata suggested hurriedly holding a session of the special bilateral working group, which is tackling the problem of recycling Russian nuclear waste, and hinted that Tokyo will definitely provide Russia with technical and material assistance. The Japanese minister called for the capital that both sides earned during the Russian president's recent visit to Tokyo to be preserved and the frail fabric of trust not torn. Kozyrev pledged to convey Japan's concern to Yeltsin and uttered several appropriate phrases apart from the one that the Japanese expected—he gave no guarantees and did not bind himself by promises to satisfy urgent Japanese demands.

Half an hour after Hata's conversation with Kozyrev, Takemura, head of the prime minister's office, issued a statement in which he threatened Russia that he would enlist the help of the G-7 countries. KYODO noted that the U.S. State Department has already protested Russian dumping operations.

Meanwhile literally every news bulletin on Japanese TV showed the Russian Navy's TNT-5 tanker filled with radioactive waste awaiting the order to head for the preset coordinates in the Sea of Japan to carry out an operation to dump 800 tonnes of liquid "freight." It is hard to guess when this order will come and how things will end although it is obvious that this will nonetheless go ahead. You would have thought that the obviousness of this would have had some effect on Japanese emotions especially since the Russian side has not made any outright commitment and for that reason did not deserve all the recriminations now being directed at it. However, in this case pragmatism failed the Japanese and that prompts the thought that their ostentatious principledness and toughness may be interpreted as a reaction to enforced restraint during Yeltsin's visit to Japan.

International Group on Radioactive Waste Disposal Proposed

LD2210081693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0805 GMT 22 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Leonid Vinogradov]

[Text] Vladivostok October 22 TASS—Presidential representative in the Maritime Territory of Russia, Valery Butov, has moved to set up an international working team to deal with the disposal of liquid radioactive wastes and, in particular, to draw up technical specifications for the construction of a special storage for this purpose.

Butov told ITAR-TASS that it was planned to dump into the sea radioactive wastes, discharged by the far eastern "Zvezda" plant. The overburdened state of this enterprise, engaged in scrapping atomic submarines in accordance with the conversion programme, prevented the timely solution of the wastes disposal problem. The "Zvezda" is able to scrap five nuclear-powered submarines a year, and it should have corresponding storages to keep the accumulating waste, Butov said.

The presidential representative is to fly to Moscow today with documents on the dumping of radioactive waste into the sea.

In the meantime, a decision has been adopted to suspend the dumping of radioactive waste into the Sea of Japan, and tanker "TNT- 27", loaded with 750 tonnes of radioactive waste, has remained moored in the Bolshoy Kamen Gulf, awaiting further orders.

"And we shall definitely receive them," chief of the Pacific Navy Chemical Service Captain Valery Danilin told ITAR-TASS. "The present situation cannot continue for long and, be what it may, an optimal decision will have to be made. The radioactive cargo will have to be disposed of in any case. World practice shows that all the advanced countries regularly do this, including our closest neighbours—the United States and Japan. And it is senseless to keep fluids, dangerous for the environment, on board tankers. A way has to be found to cope with the current situation.

Nuclear Energy Minister Leaves for Japan Talks

LD2110170193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1025 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Russian Minister of Atomic Energy Viktor Mikhailov, accompanied by a group of specialists, flew from Moscow to Tokyo today at the invitation of the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry, a spokesman for the information department of the Ministry of Atomic Energy told ITAR-TASS.

The purpose of the visit is to specify matters, related to the implementation of the agreements reached during the visit of President Yeltsin, which deal with enhancing the safety of nuclear power plants, promoting the conversion of the Russian arms- manufacturing industry, improving the ecological situation etc. Special attention will be devoted to a possible sale of Russian uranium and uranium products to Japan for the needs of its nuclear power engineering.

Joint Venture Set Up To Service Aircraft Sold to India

PM2110130393 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Oct 93 p 3

[Valentin Rudenko report: "Things Will Become a Little Easier for India's MiGs. Responsibility for Servicing and Maintaining Them To Be Assumed by Russian-Indian Joint Venture"]

[Text] This joint venture is being set up on the initiative of the Moscow Aviation Production Association (MAPO) and India's largest aviation firm, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. The MiG Aviation Scientific and Production Complex, the Nizhnyy Novgorod Aviation Plant, the "Oboroneksport" All-Russia Association foreign trade organization, the "Spetsvneshtekhnika" State Foreign Economic Commission, and a number of other Russian and Indian firms have also acted as its founders.

A working protocol was signed a few days ago in which the sum of the founders' opening investment [dolevoy vklad] is specified, along with the site of the joint venture's location and other organizational questions.

"Russia and India are linked by decades of proven aviation and technical cooperation," Gennadiy Bratukhin, deputy chairman of the Russian Federation State Committee for Defense Sectors of Industry, noted at the formal protocol signing ceremony. "We intend to develop this cooperation further."

Academician Rostislav Belyakov, chief designer at MiG, also drew attention to the tremendous significance of Russian-Indian relations in the aviation sphere. "This country is our long-standing and reliable partner," he said. "We have supplied India with virtually all models of MiG aircraft, including the MiG-29. With Russia's assistance, a major aviation plant was constructed in that country where combat aircraft are produced even today under our licenses. In all, there are somewhere in the region of 900 flight-worthy MiG aircraft in India at present. Naturally we feel greatly responsible for their combat readiness and trouble-free operation."

Unfortunately, for reasons beyond the control of aviation complex developers and manufacturers, this responsibility was far from always backed up by concrete deeds in the past.

"The joint venture that we are setting up is setting itself the actual task of eliminating this shortcoming and bringing the producer as close to the client as possible," MAPO deputy chief engineer Viktor Trifonov noted.

Ambassador to Algeria Blames Slayings on 'Terrorism'

PM2110090993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition pp 1, 3

[Aleksey Portanskiy report: "The Killing of Two Russians in Algeria Was a Preplanned Act of Terrorism by the Extreme Opposition"]

[Text] The previous issue of IZVESTIYA reported the deaths of two Russian military advisers in Algeria—Lieutenant Colonels Vladimir Valezhnyy and Aleksandr Orlov. On Wednesday morning [20 October] the editorial office telephoned Aleksandr Aksenenok, Russian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

"It was a preplanned act of terrorism against our citizens," the ambassador declared. "This is indicated by a whole number of circumstances of what happened. In the evening four of our military advisers were sitting on a bench outside their house located in the center of the city of Laghouat, when armed people approached them and started shooting them practically at point-blank range. Valezhnyy and Orlov were killed at once. Falling, their bodies covered their comrade Sergey Loshchilin, who received injuries to his leg and arm, thereby saving his life. Fortunately, the fourth was not hit. Lt. Col. Loshchilin has been operated on in the local hospital to mend a bone, and there are no fears about his condition, according to the medics."

The Algerian ministers of foreign affairs and national defense have assured the Russian ambassador that the Algerian authorities intend to conduct a very thorough investigation into the circumstances of the tragedy and to report its results without delay to the Russian Federation Embassy. In addition, the Algerians have promised to take all necessary measures to step up security at Russian establishments and at the places of residence of our employees in the country. It will not, however, be that easy to do this, when you consider that our specialists are at present dispersed among 65 installations on the territory of Algeria.

I will remind you that since January of last year Algeria has been living under conditions of a state of emergency imposed following the cancelation of the first free parliamentary elections, in the course of which the Islamic Salvation Front was leading. During this time the terror unleashed against the official authorities by Islamic extremists as a sign of protest has already claimed approximately 1,500 lives. Head of State M. Boudiaf was killed in June last year, and Former Prime Minister K. Merbah two months ago.

Recently the implacable Islamic opposition has switched its strikes to foreign representatives, seeking to complicate the present regime's relations with other states.

above all those in the non-Muslim world. Last month two French specialists fell at the hands of extremists, and a week ago Islamic gunmen took hostage a representative of the Mercedes Company. Literally at the moment this material was being prepared for publication REUTERS reported the disappearance of three employees of an Italian company who were 200 km from the Algerian capital.

Many acts of terrorism are committed by so-called "Afghans"—young people who received combat training in the ranks of the mojahedin in Afghanistan. The killing of the Russian officers in Laghouat also bore their hallmark.

'Islamic Fundamentalists' Blamed

PM2210095593 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 3

[Ravil Mustafin report: "Tragedy in Algeria: No Answer Yet"]

[Text] According to information which we have received through ITAR-TASS channels, the tragedy occurred in the city of Laghouat, 400 km south of the Algerian capital, at 2015 hours local time on Saturday 16 October. Under cover of darkness three unknown persons approached a building which houses Russian specialists—instructors at an air defense school. They suddenly opened up with assault rifles from close range, firing at several of our officers sitting on a bench at point-blank range. Lieutenant Colonels Vladimir Valezhniy and Aleksandr Orlov were killed on the spot and Lieutenant Colonel Aleksandr Lashchilin was wounded. His life is now out of danger. The gangsters succeeded in escaping. An investigation is under way. Russian military mission and consulate representatives in Algeria have traveled to the scene of the crime to ascertain the circumstances of the deaths.

As we have learned from informed sources, the bodies of the deceased will be flown back to Moscow today on a special flight. While on Saturday a special group will fly out from Moscow to carry out an on-the-spot investigation of the two Russian servicemen's deaths. It is planned that the group will return to Moscow on 30 October. However, much will depend on how the investigation progresses. It cannot be ruled out that its stay will be extended.

Who and what, then, could be behind the tragedy in Laghouat? As yet it is difficult to answer that question with complete certainty. However, observers think that this is the work of Islamic fundamentalists, the result of the extremely aggravated confrontation between the Algerian authorities and religious extremists and fanatics. While previously the fundamentalists for the most part chose Algerian servicemen, policemen, and state officials as their targets, they have now switched to public figures, doctors, representatives of the intelligentsia, and journalists. And recently forigners have increasingly become victims of terrorism in Algeria. Last month two French people were kidnapped and killed in the west of the country. And on Tuesday another three foreign workers—two Latin Americans and a Filipino—went missing in Tiaret.

The stern measures taken by the Algerian government against the Islamic extremists (more than 400 death sentences have been passed in the country, some of which have been carried out) has, unfortunately, not eradicated the terrorism. It is perfectly possible that our two fellow-citizens fell victim to just such fundamentalists.

'Contradictions' in Moscow Stance on Libya Sanctions

PM2110152193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 3

[Maksim Yusin report: "Moscow Threatens To Use UN Veto, Causing Bewilderment in West and Approval From al-Qadhdhafi"]

[Text] For the first time in a long time serious friction has arisen in relations between Moscow and the West. During consultations at the UN Security Council in New York Russian representatives threatened to block a resolution that envisages stepping up sanctions against Libya.

The Security Council introduced a ban on arms sales to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's regime and on international flights to Libya in April 1992. Tripoli is accused of encouraging terrorism and refusing to hand over to international justice the two Libyans suspected of being involved in blowing up the U.S. passenger aircraft over Scotland in 1988, as a result of which 270 people died.

After several reassuring statements from the Libyan authorities in September, al-Qadhdhafi as usual abruptly changed his tone and reverted to his customary bellicose rhetoric. This caused the West to toughen its position. The United States, France, and Britain have drawn up a draft resolution on stepping up sanctions. Moscow has demanded that its examination be postponed indefinitely.

Russia has made serious complaints regarding the text of the resolution. The point regarding a freeze on Libyan assets abroad caused particular discontent. In Moscow's opinion, that step makes it impossible to recover Libyan debts totaling, according to Foreign Ministry experts' estimates, around $7 billion.

"The authors of the draft resolution did not find time to coordinate it with Russia. They have presented us with a fait accompli," a high-ranking diplomat, who wanted to remain anonymous, said. "We only saw the text for the first time 12 October, and the vote was to have taken place 15 October. In drawing up the draft, the West Europeans, who are dependent on Libyan oil shipments, were concerned for themselves: No provision is made for an 'oil embargo.' They did not think about Russian interests. The resolution is unacceptable to us in this form."

This conflict is bound to be one of the main topics at Kozyrev's talks with W. Christopher in Moscow 22 October. Russia is suggesting two compromise alternatives. First, that the vote be postponed for a few weeks so that Russian experts can study the consequences for our economy of tightening up sanctions against Tripoli. Second, that the demand for Libyan assets to be frozen be excluded from the text. (Admittedly, the Foreign Ministry officials themselves acknowledge that without that point the resolution would be useless since the other measures envisaged in the draft are purely symbolic).

Apart from Russia another five members of the Security Council—China, Morocco, Pakistan, Djibouti, and Cape Verde—have taken a skeptical view of tightening up sanctions. However, Beijing indicated that it would not vote against, and nine members of the Council are willing to back the resolution—that is enough for it to be adopted. So everything depends on Moscow's position—whether it carries out its threat to employ its veto. This last happened on a question of principle under Chernenko—in 1984.

The West has viewed Russia's position with bewilderment. "It is very strange that Russian diplomacy's first step after the suppression of the October revolt is to back such a hateful figure as al-Qadhdhafi," a European diplomat accredited to Moscow commented. It is all the more surprising that after the storming of the White House the top Libyan leadership and the official press did not hold back with what they said, holding "President Yeltsin, who killed 500 deputies," up to shame...

Admittedly, interlocutors on Smolensk Square categorically deny that Moscow intends to take the Libyan regime under its wing. "We are not concerned about Libyan, but about our own interests," one of them said. "Russia has advocated and still does advocate the need to combat terrorism."

Nevertheless there are plenty of contradictions in Moscow's position. First, Foreign Ministry personnel themselves admit that Russia has little chance of getting the $7 billion that Libya owes us. Second, when there was talk in the past of punishing Iraq or Yugoslavia Moscow agreed to freeze these countries' assets and even sustained financial losses in doing so. And, lastly, even if Russia succeeds in recovering some of the debts from Al-Qadhdhafi thanks to desperate UN efforts, will that compensate for the moral damage that Moscow has sustained in the eyes of world public opinion in acting (even for reasons of economic advantage) as the advocate for a terrorist regime?

Diplomats in Burundi 'Safe and Sound'

LD2110190893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1830 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—In connection with an attempted coup in Burundi, the Russian charge d'affaires ad interim in Rwanda said that "all employees of the Russian Embassy and specialists who worked in Burundi are safe and sound and are feeling well." The report was received from the Russian Foreign Ministry late on Thursday.

Telecommunications Deal Signed With Cyprus

PM2110101193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 20 Oct 93 p iv

[Unattributed report: "First Time in Two Countries' History"—from the "Delo" section]

[Text] The first intergovernmental agreement has been signed between Russia and Cyprus. It envisages cooperation in the sphere of electrical [as published] and postal communications. The two sides and their commercial organizations will be able to work together on the creation of a modern telecommunications network. Cyprus' advantageous geographic location, its developed telecommunications structure, and its excellent technical equipment have already been used by many countries to establish communications with other states and regions. Now Russia will also be able to avail itself of these opportunities. The agreement gives a boost to the further strengthening of cooperation between the two countries in other trade and economic spheres as well.

Yeltsin Message to CFE Leaders Viewed

PM2110135393 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 3

[Article by Manki Ponomarev: "Moving Away From Flank Restrictions. The CFE Treaty and Realities of Life"]

[Text] I have already had occasion—in the article "Is Moscow's Opinion Heeded in NATO?" (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 14 October 1993)—to write about the reaction abroad to Russia's appeal to the leaders of the leading Western countries in connection with the plans to enlarge the bloc. This appeal gave rise to quite a lot of contradictory reactions. But maybe even more misinterpretations were caused by another message from the Russian Federation president—this time addressed to the leaders of a number of states party to the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe (the CFE Treaty) and devoted to bringing this document into line with existing military-political realities.

The point is that the treaty was formulated in completely different conditions to those which have developed today. It was formulated in conditions of bloc confrontation. Since then the cold war era has vanished into oblivion. The Warsaw Pact Organization is no more. The Soviet Union has ceased to exist. And the result is that certain provisions of the treaty which caused no particular doubts or objections at the time it was signed have now become manifestly at variance with real life. They are creating artificial obstacles to the strengthening of trust and cooperation, retarding the building of new

relations among the participant countries, and could even revive outdated concepts from the period of direct military confrontation.

We are talking first and foremost about the flank restrictions on armament levels imposed by the CFE Treaty. When it was being formulated the intention was that these restrictions would apply, in particular, to all USSR armed forces stationed in the north and south of the European part of the country. But after that a number of independent states emerged on the country's territory and the quotas set for the Soviet Union were divided up among its successors—Russia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Moldova, and Ukraine. And the result is that of the maximum overall total for our country of 6,400 tanks, 11,480 armored fighting vehicles, and 6,415 artillery systems in regular units in the Leningrad and North Caucasus Military Districts, which make up the Russian flank area, after 1995 the treaty will permit the presence in regular units of no more than 700 tanks, 580 armored fighting vehicles, and 1,280 artillery systems. Yet these two military districts cover more than half of the European part of Russia's territory, not to mention the fact that they are both border districts.

So the flank restrictions in practice place Russia in a situation of totally unjustified discrimination. The structure of regional restrictions enables all parties to the treaty (except the Russian Federation and Ukraine) to station troops and conventional arms throughout their territory as they see fit. Russia is unable to do this, however, even in areas where it needs to in the interests of safeguarding its security.. The flank restrictions compel our country to concentrate the bulk of its conventional arms not where the situation requires—in the south, for example—but along the old East-West line; that is, along the western borders and in tiny Kaliningrad Oblast.

It is no secret that the situation in the southern sector (the Caucasus and adjoining areas) where there are large numbers of armed formations equipped with even heavy equipment and not under the jurisdiction of central authorities, requires a weighty Russian military presence there as a stabilizing factor. Another substantial factor is that there is a developed infrastructure there for stationing some of the troops withdrawn from the territory of other states, and favorable local conditions make possible considerable expenditure savings on providing facilities for them. Whereas the stationing of withdrawn troops in less habitable areas could lead to the growth of social tension in the Army.

It was the precise need to rectify the situation that was addressed in the Russian Federation president's letter to the leaders of a number of CFE Treaty countries. Furthermore, according to reliable information available to the writer, the letter particularly stressed that, despite the mismatch between a few of its provisions and the new situation in Europe, Russia remains committed to the treaty and has made a firm choice in favor of preserving its integrity. At the same time, however, the time has come to think about how to align it with the new realities and jettison the attributes of the cold war so that individual provisions of the treaty do not come into conflict with the interests of the parties to it. The letter also indicates a possible mechanism for adapting the treaty to present-day conditions—in particular within the framework of the Joint Consultative Group session being held in Vienna.

In brief, the letter gave no grounds for the speculation by a number of foreign press organs that Russia is categorically insisting on a revision of the treaty and demanding for itself the right to violate it and sharply build up its heavy arms in the North Caucasus.

The constructiveness of Russia's attitude is also evidenced by the speeches delivered by its representatives at the session of the Joint Consultative Group on the CFE Treaty. Thus Ambassador Vyacheslav Kulebyakin, head of the Russian delegation, proposed that Article 5 of the treaty, which deals with flank restrictions, be suspended, without being amended or rescinded. Such a solution would be based on a number of precedents and generally accepted world practice and would not entail alteration of the text of the treaty. The treaty could be adopted in full in 1995-1996, but an interim option could be formulated until a definitive solution is found.

Yet another approach to solving the problems of flank restrictions was advanced in a speech to the Joint Consultative Group by Lieutenant General Vladimir Zhurbenko, first deputy chief of staff of the Russian Federation Armed Forces. It essentially involved recategorizing the North Caucasus Military District from a flank district, as Article 5 of the treaty designates it, to a rear district, which would not be affected by the cited restrictions on quantities of arms stationed there.

It is important to stress that in addressing its flank problems Russia is not jeopardizing the security of any party to the treaty. Furthermore, we are ready, in particular, to reduce our grouping in the Leningrad Military District by between half and two-thirds by the end of 1995. Nor do we intend to have more conventional arms than necessary in the North Caucasus Military District.

These are the concrete ideas spelled out by Russian representatives in amplification of the Russian Federation president's letter. They are currently being actively discussed. Nevertheless a solution to the problem of flank restrictions for Russia has still not been found. A few representatives of states party to the treaty are sympathetic to our concern. Maybe only Turkey has taken a sharply negative attitude to Moscow's wishes. But our treaty partners are in no hurry, explaining their restraint in terms of fears that steps toward an accommodation with the Russian proposals could lead to a chain reaction of revisions of other provisions of the treaty and ultimately to its complete revision and collapse.

It is difficulty to say which is more in evidence here—genuine fears or deviousness. After all there is nothing out of line in our proposals. Complex questions have already been resolved within the framework of the Joint

Consultative Group to mutual satisfaction. This happened, for example, when there were discussions on the problems of marine and coast guard arms or the fate of arms relocated to the Urals. It also happened when the borders of the area covered by the treaty were redesignated as a result of the exclusion from it of the territory of the Baltic states or the expansion of the number of participant states to 30. Why not continue this process?

But forces with no desire to ease the burden of the problems which have overwhelmed Russia are evidently mobilizing here. It is currently disadvantageous for them to pursue their line out in the open. But behind the scenes they are able to obstruct the realization of Moscow's proposals or cause a fuss in the press over the Russian president's messages. Nevertheless the problem of flank restrictions will have to be resolved. Otherwise Russia will be faced with a dilemma: either accepting the discriminatory situation and neglecting its security—which is out of the question, of course—or adopting unilateral appropriate measures to safeguard it. There is no other option.

Country Involved in International Peacekeeping Operations

MK2110113593 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 68, 21 Oct 93 (signed to press 20 Oct) p 3

[Leonid Velekhov report under the "Lessons of Civilization" rubric: "How To Become a Peacemaker. Russia Strives To Take Part in International Peacekeeping Operations. But Its Wishes Are Often at Odds With Its Capabilities"]

[Text] A few days ago, the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry announced Russia's agreement in principle to take part in the international contingent of peacekeeping forces setting out for Haiti in order to assist in restoring democracy on the Caribbean island and in retraining its army and police forces. Russia is intent on taking part in the purely civilian component of the peacekeeping operation—the so-called police contingent. Our newspaper has learned that this decision, which was made at the level of the Foreign and Internal Affairs Ministries, is yet to be signed by the Russian prime minister.

For the time being, however, this operation, which was to be organized under UN aegis, has been postponed for an unspecified period owing to the worsening of tensions on the island. The military junta, which seized power in September 1991, at the eleventh hour—a few weeks before the return to Haiti of the legitimate president, Aristide, scheduled for late October—provoked unrest, which demonstrated its unwillingness to hand over power to the legitimate government as was provided for in the peace agreements reached last July. The unrest was sparked by the arrival of the first unit of peacekeeping forces made up of military engineers, doctors, and police officers from the United States and Canada. As a result, not only was the ship with the peacekeepers on board unable to dock at Port-au-Prince, but a few dozen UN officials who arrived earlier in Haiti to prepare the operation had to be urgently evacuated from Haiti to the neighboring Dominican Republic.

Nonetheless, there is hardly any doubt that sooner or later the Haitian junta will have to step down, and the peacekeepers will not be left without a job. For Russia—although it intends its involvement to be as small-scale as possible: only five Internal Affairs Ministry officers are to be sent to Haiti—this experience will be of crucial importance. Agreeing to take part in this peacekeeping operation, Russia has taken yet another, albeit small, step to assert itself as a great power preoccupied not only with what is going on within its borders, but also with the fate of democracy throughout the world. Your SEGODNYA correspondent was told at the Foreign Ministry that Russia would continue to seek to be represented in all UN peacekeeping operations without exception, the more so because the restoration or establishment of democracy and peace is presently Russia's priority objective not only in foreign, but also in domestic policy.

In addition, the moral and political experience of taking part in UN peacekeeping operations could enrich the Russian special services, which is extremely important given that Russia ought to help resolve global problems, such as drug trafficking, international terrorism, and so forth.

How Russian special services are equipped for this kind of operation is another matter. According to some reports, the UN secretariat asked Russia to increase its involvement in the Haitian operation to 20-30 people, but the request was turned down. It is not that, say, the Russian Internal Affairs Ministry is unwilling to increase its contingent; according to the Russian Foreign Ministry, the Internal Affairs Ministry was quick to show its great eagerness to cooperate with the United Nations. The thing is that it is difficult for the Internal Affairs Ministry to find the requisite number of officials who would meet all the requirements established for participants in this kind of operations: a good command of a foreign language (French, in Haiti's case), perfect driving skills, etc. Yes, indeed, however strange it might seem, our special service officials do not always meet even the requirements set for drivers, which was confirmed by the expulsion of a Russian member of the peacekeeping contingent in Yugoslavia for this very reason.

Finally, one more problem: Russian participants in peacekeeping operations who are sent abroad lose their pay and allowances at home. While abroad, they receive only a per-diem allowance paid by the United Nations, while their families at home are left to their own devices in terms of income sources. There is no accounting whatsoever for this penny-pinching on the part of the government.

According to reports available to SEGODNYA, currently a decision is being worked out on Russia's military involvement in an international operation in Rwanda, and also on increasing its participation in a similar operation in Mozambique. Hence, Russia is getting more and more involved in international peacekeeping operations. Although the Russian Defense Ministry refused to participate in an operation in Liberia, Russia is

steadily moving ahead in this direction along the path of civilized states that respect themselves and are respected by others. As is often the case in Russia, however, the main snag is to adequately support and to flesh out the good and civilized intentions.

EC Wants Partnership, Cooperation Agreement

PM2110164993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Russia-EC"]

[Text] The EEC intends to expedite the signing of a partnership and cooperation agreement with Russia. To that end talks will be held in Moscow on this issue soon. This has been announced by Netherlands Foreign Ministry Secretary of State Dankaert. The EC Commission is setting itself the aim of having the agreement drawn up and signed before the end of this year. Until recently the stumbling block was the Community's restrained attitude to Russia's desire to include four provisions in the document—on the free exchange of goods, of capital, and of services, and on freedom of movement. We have learned from well-informed sources that an EC delegation is leaving for Russia in the next few days to reach agreement on the phased resolution of these problems.

Political Issues

Security Ministry Staff Said Facing 40 Percent Cut

MK2110115193 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 1

["NG" report: "Another Russian Federation Security Ministry Reform?"]

[Text] Information received yesterday speaks of a document on reforming the Russian Federation Security Ministry having been passed at the top level of the Russian leadership. In particular it provides that the ministry's personnel be cut to nearly 60 percent of its present staff. This information was neither denied nor refuted at the Russian Federation Security Ministry's Public Relations Center.

Yeltsin Signs Decree on Members of Security Council

LD2110121093 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Today Boris Yeltsin signed a decree confirming the following members of the Security Council:

Yegor Gaydar, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers;
Security Minister Nikolay Golushko;
Defense Minister Pavel Grachev;
Viktor Danilov-Danilyan, minister for environment and natural resources;
Interior Minister Viktor Yerin;
Justice Minister Yuriy Kalmykov;
Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev;
Health Minister Eduard Nechayev;
Yevgeniy Primakov, director of the Foreign Intelligence Service;
Boris Fedorov, deputy chairman of Council of Ministers and finance minister;
Sergey Shakhray, deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Federation and Nationalities Affairs.

Chernomyrdin Remains on Council

LD2110122693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1205 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin remains member of the Russian Security Council. This specification was made by deputy spokesman of the Russian president's press service Anatoly Krasikov on Thursday.

Asked by ITAR-TASS why the name of Viktor Chernomyrdin was absent from today's decree on Russian Security Council members, Krasikov explained that, in compliance with the decree on the formation of the Security Council, this body consists of permanent Security Council members and Security Council members appointed by the president. The first include the Russian premier and Security Council Secretary Oleg Lobov.

Yeltsin Signs Decree on Council Commissions

LD2210101993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0945 GMT 22 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow October 22 TASS—President Boris Yeltsin has signed a decree "to improve the work of interdepartmental commissions of the Security Council of the Russian Federation".

A statement released by the presidential press service here today says that the document lists all the standing interdepartmental commissions of the Russian Security Council, which will now include a foreign policy commission, a commission on ecologic safety, a defence security commission, an information security commission, an economic security commission, a public security commission, and a public health commission.

In accordance with the decree, there will also be a permanently functioning special interregional commission under the Russian Security Council and interdepartmental commissions for combatting crime and corruption, and for dealing with defence industry science and technology problems.

Officials Explain Changed Shape of Intelligence Service

PM2210095993 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 1

[Ravil Mustafin report: "With Whom We Went on Reconnaissance"]

[Text] What is life like for the Russian intelligence service today and what changes have there been in its work over the past two years? That was the subject discussed by Vadim Kirpichenko, leader of the group of consultants under the director of the Foreign Intelligence Service, and Yuriy Kobaladze, who heads our intelligence department's press service, at a meeting with the editorial office collective on 19 October.

Having left the KGB and consequently the system of law enforcement organs two years ago, the Russian intelligence service renounced the principle of globalism and such concepts as the "enemy" in its work. Meanwhile our guests were under no illusions about who is conducting intelligence operations against Russia and how.

In the past two years there has been a significant reduction of various components of the Russian intelligence service—30 to 40 percent. Around 30 foreign stations have been closed down.

The adoption in summer last year of the law on intelligence was of special significance for intelligence work, the editorial office guests stressed. The law enabled the

Foreign Intelligence Service and the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Russian Federation Armed Forces General Staff to work within a strict legal framework. The law demands civilized actions and bans the use of special preparations [preparat] and compromising materials. The recruitment of agents is now conducted solely on a voluntary basis.

Recently areas of permanent cooperation between Russian intelligence and the special services of other states have been defined in such spheres as the fight against international crime, the drugs mafia, terrorism, monitoring the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and so forth. Such cooperation has a tendency to develop further—from the criminal sphere to political interaction. On the whole we are observing a transition from confrontation to cooperation, but this does not signal the end of the struggle between intelligence services, however.

Yeltsin Denies Acting 'Like a Dictator'

LD2110202093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1837 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, 21 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—"No one can reproach me that I have changed my choice. The choice in favor of the democratic development of Russia. I have never spoken, never mind acted, like a dictator." Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin told a correspondent from 'NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA' [NEW DAILY NEWSPAPER], answering a question on the further destiny of democracy in the country which now, in the correspondent's opinion, worries a certain section of society.

Speaking about the limitations on democratic freedoms during the period of the state of emergency in Moscow, the president noted that "they really were introduced. Moreover in strict accordance with the law on states of emergency. Apart from that this was not a matter of a total limitation on political rights and freedoms.

"Now the state of emergency regime in Moscow has ended. I stress that outside Moscow these limitations were not introduced and did not come into effect."

Dwelling on the preparations for the coming elections Boris Yeltsin said that "all the parties and movements officially registered by the Central Electoral Commission will enjoy equal guarantees to conduct their own election campaigns and to campaign for their own candidates. This is directly stipulated in the Statute on Elections. And I will strictly monitor the way in which these requirements are fulfilled.

In addition a Statute on Guaranteed Information about the Election Campaign has on my orders been prepared. I will sign the relevant decree on this shortly. And besides this, as far as I know, the Central Electoral Commission is also drawing up instructions explaining the Statute.

Touching on the work of the former Supreme Soviet, the president noted that "its stance had become militantly stubborn and destructive. It was impossible to conduct any kind of dialogue in these circumstances. Irrespective of its quality, every decision taken by the government right down to day-to-day business was resisted and the obstruction of its policies was organized literally throughout the whole system of soviets.

At the same time I consider that until the Federal Assembly has been elected the Council of Ministers should refrain from any sharply revolutionary steps in the economy. This would be really dangerous without a normal parliament. In the main, the Government is acting on the basis of the decisions that were adopted before 21 September. And all the more so since the basic priorities of its policy were determined long ago."

Replying to a question about the ambiguous situation with regard to the laws which arose at the end of last month and the beginning of this month—namely how can the temptation be avoided of violating the law in the future, too, if the Constitution virtually does not exist, if the Constitutional Court is not operating, and the legislation as a whole has been called into question among the broad masses of the population—the president replied that some people really were urging him to transgress the law" [quotation mark as received]. The reason is well known—departmental interests, he said.

Let me remind you, the president stressed: The well-known edict no. 1400 clearly states that the measures that are being taken have the exclusive aim of resolutely moving forward the constitutional reforms and only that aim.

Boris Yeltsin dwelt on the details of the development of events according to the so-called "White House scenario." "Lists of people who were to have been arrested after a seizure of power by the rebels have been discovered," he emphasized. "They are very similar to those that were prepared by the notorious State Committee for the State of Emergency in August 1991. It is not hard to guess what kind of 'restoration' of democracy would have awaited us, if the development of events had proceeded according to this scenario. October 1917 would have been directly continued in our own day."

Many questions are arising about the activities of the militia, the newspaper's correspondent said. Boris Yeltsin noted that a serious analysis of the events of those days is under way and every action and lack of action is being reviewed thoroughly and in detail. I hope, he said, that the truth will be fully re- established. "I know of no instances when any of the leaders of the power structures and their subordinates were not acting within the law."

The president noted that the presidential and governmental reform line for Russia will be retained in accordance with the results of the referendum of 25 April this year. For the sake of achieving these aims, personnel changes have been made and will continue to be made.

Speaking about the independence and freedom of the press, Boris Yeltsin emphasized that "as long as freedom of the press remains, we can be certain that democracy too will survive."

"I say this: the law on mass information in Russia must and will be observed in its full measure. We will correct the distortions introduced by those who implemented the law. Freedom of the press is for me just as important as for you and for all the citizens of Russia," said the president of Russia.

Shakhray Condemns Ousting of Non-Russians During Emergency

MK2110121093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed NEGA report under general headline: "Does it Befit Russia To Keep Its Doors closed? Deportation of Non-Russians From Moscow May Cause Serious Damage to the Russian Federation and Russians Outside its Borders"]

[Text] Yesterday a statement came in to Moscow City Hall from the Russian Federation State Committee on Federal and Nationalities Affairs [Goskomfederatsiya] signed by Russian Federation Vice Premier Sergey Shakhray and his first deputy at Goskomfederatsiya, Ramazan Abdulatipov. The statement questions the effectiveness of the measures by the capital's law enforcement bodies during the state of emergency. In spite of the obvious success in crime control, the statement admits, the law enforcement bodies have committed gross violations of human rights. In particular, during the state of emergency citizens were detained who had nothing to do with the criminal world but were only "guilty" of having "Caucasian nationality." Goskomfederatsiya, condemning the illegal actions of the law enforcement bodies, believes that the violation of the Russian Federation Constitution in so far as it applies to citizens' rights and freedoms is capable of provoking a negative reaction in the country's regions.

Officer Discusses Role in White House Assault

BR2210112693 Milan IL GIORNALE in Italian 19 Oct 93 p 14

[Report on interview with Andrey Grechkin, 'chief of staff of Russian Army Special-Purpose Unit 34-19,' by Paola Delle Fratte in Moscow; date not given: "God Help Anyone Who Forgets The Army"]

[Text] Moscow—A slight breeze blew through the military stronghold. Now the storm is over, and the soldiers' families still grieve for their dead, while in the Dzerzhinski Division's Headquarters, the commanders were taking stock of the battle. At the entrance, heavy armored vehicles raised lone Russian flags as a sign of the sad victory and inside, in the barracks, the feeling of pride at the success of the operation was mixed partly with concern and partly with sorrow.

These are the special units, the "leatherheads"—those trained to intervene in the country's hottest spots. These are the crack troops totally loyal to Yeltsin who were supposed to ensure that he controlled Moscow. And yet, during the fighting, something apparently went wrong: A few armed and highly trained men pulled back, not offering the advancing demonstrators any real resistance. They did not return fire, even when the trade union offices were assaulted. Doubts were expressed about their loyalty to the president when, in front of television cameras from around the world, a unit of some 200 men was seen going over to the rebel side. These blemishes will certainly weigh heavily against the entire division's honor, and suspicions are likely to overshadow the merit they earned in the field on the day the White House was assaulted.

It is perhaps this, plus a hint of rivalry with the other special units, that convinced the top commanders of the impenetrable stronghold to open the doors to a foreign visitor. "Nobody has properly described the essential role played by our division on the day of the attack against Parliament. I was commanding the troops and our regiment was in the front rank, at the center of the battle." Those were the first words spoken by Andrey Grechkin, chief of staff of unit 34-19, as he invited us into his small office. Seated behind a desk, below a huge portrait of Dzerzhinski (who founded the "Cheka," the political police formed in 1917) and surrounded by six extremely young soldiers, he agreed to tell us about his day of war and glory.

We immediately asked him to explain how on earth, after days of armed siege around the White House, the demonstrators so easily managed to gain the upper hand over the troops on Sunday, 3 October. "It may seem strange to some, but we were not armed at that time. We were not entitled to carry arms because—it should not be forgotten—negotiations were still under way, through the mediation of the patriarchy, and we all believed that they would lead to a compromise. Indeed, if anybody had told me on 2 October that we were supposed to attack the White House, I would have refused. Afterwards, however, when the rebels revealed themselves and made it clear what their moves would be, I had no more doubts. We needed to act. I have to admit, however, that we were taken by surprise, since we were sure that Omon and the police would manage to stop the demonstrators before they reached the shelter of the parliament building. Then something must have happened, maybe treachery." On whose part? "Officially I cannot say anything, although I can say that from the military point of view it was not easy to stop such a determined crowd. As for us, we are riot troops and we were asked to intervene only after the clashes had degenerated into mass disorder. At that point we were issued with arms."

However, if the Army had not remained loyal to the president and if, on 4 October, it had refused to fire on Parliament, would you have been strong enough to attack alone? "Of course. It might have taken more time,

but in our division we have all the forces and all the resources we need." How did you react when they told you that you had to fire at your own parliament, at other Russians? "By that time Parliament had already been discredited. The deputies, Rutskoy and Khasbulatov themselves, were the first ones to call on people to attack their own brothers. Blood had already been spilled and the time had come to intervene and kill the beast in its lair without wasting another minute."

Did you ever think that perhaps some of your men might go over to the rebel side? "Sure. Suffice it to say that a group from my unit was surrounded by an extremely determined group of people who 'worked' on them for over two hours, trying to convince them to 'come over to the side of the people,' and 'serve the cause of justice,' and so forth. Two of my men went over to their side." How many others went over out of the entire division? "I do not know of any, but I can only speak for my men." What do you think will happen now that the fire has been doused? "One thing is certain, it will not end here." Apart from the immediate emergency measures, what other measures will be taken to prevent rebellion from erupting again? "For a start, our politicians should devote themselves to reviving the economy. I have only one thing to add: God help anyone who forgets the Army."

An official accompanied us back to the entrance of the stronghold, but before letting us go, he insisted that we visit the widow of Lieutenant Colonel Aleksandr Savchenko, who died in the fighting. In her tiny apartment, the family was gathered around a table laid out with food, the traditional Russian way of commemorating the dead. Her two children, aged eight and 10, did not seem to have grasped yet the sad event that has overtaken the family, while the widow, sobbing, tried to play the hostess. "This is where we live, four to a room. We have been waiting for a new apartment for 10 years. They have promised us that we will receive one soon—now that he is no longer with us, now that he has paid for it with his life."

Yeltsin Issues 'Decree' on Procurator's Office

LD2110132893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1250 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed on Thursday a decree "On the activity of the procurator's office in the period of the stage-by-stage constitutional reform in the Russian Federation". Follows the text of the decree circulated by the presidential press office:

On the activity of the procurator's office during the stage-by- stage constitutional reform in the Russian Federation

In order to enhance the efficiency of the activity of the procurator's office of the Russian Federation in ensuring legality and in accordance with Decree No. 1400 of the Russian president of September 21, 1993 "On the stage-by-stage constitutional reform in the Russian Federation", I decree:

1. To preserve the unified centralised system of bodies of the procurator's office of the russian Federation with the subjugation of procurators to those of higher instances and to the procurator- general of the Russian Federation.

The activity of procurators is governed by the Constitution of the Russian Federation and the law of the Russian Federation "On the procurator's office of the Russian delegation" in its part that does not contradict to Decree No. 1400 of the Russian president of September 21, 1993 "On the stage-by-stage constitutional reform in the Russian Federation" and the given decree. In addition, military procurators are guided by the provision on the military procurator's office in its part that does not contradict to the present legislation and decrees of the Russian president.

2. Pending the adoption of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the procurator-general of the Russian Federation and procurators subordinated to him monitor the observance of decrees of the president of the Russian Federation and coordinate the activity of law enforcement bodies in combating crime.

3. The Council of Ministers—Government of the Russian Federation is to envisage the necessary financing and material- technical and other supply for bodies of the military procurator's office.

4. The procurator-general of the Russian federation upon agreement with the Council of Ministers—Government of the Russian Federation is to draft within three months the proposals for privileges in pensions for procurators.

5. The given decree comes into effect from the moment of its publication.

Yeltsin Decree on Council Reform Explained

LD2110161193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1504 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin's state and law department has circulated a paper on Thursday explaining Article 5 of presidential decree No. 1617 of October 9, 1993 on reform of legislative bodies of power and bodies of local self-government in the Russian Federation.

Following is the full text of the document.

"1. The impossibility for a council of people's deputies to carry out its duties because of the lack of quorum is used to mean the council's inability to carry out the duties because of:

Invalidity of a regular or emergency session of the council of people's deputies if it is attended by less than two thirds of the total number of deputies established for

this council of people's deputies, as well as the failure to convene a regular or emergency session of the council of people's deputies within the period of time established by legislation.

The failure to convene a regular or emergency session of the council of people's deputies due to the resignation of people's deputies from the council.

2. The temporary fulfillment of the duties of a legislative body by a respective administration in the event of the council's self- disbandment or impossibility of the council of people's deputies to carry out its duties because of the lack of quorum is used to mean:

Fulfillment by a respective administration of all duties of a legislative body, including its financial, property, personnel or other powers, after the administration has established for a fact that the council has disbanded itself or is unable to carry out its duties because of the lack of quorum.

Termination of the activity of the chairman of the council, council leaders or other agencies of the council of people's deputies and its officials.

Fulfillment by the administration of the aforementioned duties until a new legislative body is set up and begins working.

[Signed] A. Kotenkov

Shakhray Says New Government To Be Formed After Elections

LD2110130693 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Fromn the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray, who heads Russia's Unity and Accord Party, says that a new government will be formed after the December elections. Shakhray does not think the fact that ministers have been given the go-ahead to stand as parliamentary candidates will result in a split in the present government. The Unity and Accord Party has nominated Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to head its electoral list. According to Shakhray, the party hopes that the prime minister will accept the offer.

Shakhray on Principles of Division of Power

LD2110213393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1748 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin, edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature No. 441]

[Text] **MANDATE AND GOVERNMENTAL POST**

Russia's Vice Premier and leader of the Russian Unity and Accord Party Sergey Shakhray is convinced that the possibility of combining the deputy's mandate and a governmental post, approved by the president, is expedient and well-justified in the current situation.

He told Interfax in an exclusive interview that in the Russian setting, the principle of the division of power cannot and must not be given absolute priority because it may lead to a tragedy similar to the storming of the White House on October 3 and 4.

Shakhray believes that "without making any cardinal changes in the principles of the division of power, we must take our bitter experience into account and build a bridge between the government and parliament, so that understanding and cooperation, not conflicts or confrontation, characterize the work of the supreme authorities."

The president's decree envisages this opportunity. Such a chance will be given to some 20 to 30 people who may become cabinet members following elections.

Shakhray then said that the decree also changed the cabinet's formation procedure, in accordance with which the State Duma would now appoint a premier to be nominated by the president. He is convinced that in new conditions, the Duma would demand and get from a would be prime minister, even before his endorsement, a program or a list of top-priority measures and the names of the selected key ministers. "And since half the deputies are elected on party tickets, the premier can be either the leader of the parliamentary majority or someone with whom this political majority will agree," Shakhray said.

"As the cabinet gradually becomes a party and parliamentary majority government, the chance for this majority party's members to be in the government provides a mechanism by which the representative branch could influence the executive branch and be politically responsible as a decision making body," Shakhray said.

The combination of government and parliamentary posts offers far more benefits than hypothetical shortcomings, Shakhray concluded.

IF Note: The presidential administration chief Sergey Filatov echoed this view when he addressed newsmen on Wednesday. He argues that the disapproval by representatives of a number of parties at the Constitutional Conference of the president's decision to allow combining government and parliamentary jobs was prompted by emotions. He believes that a new constitution would permit such combination for all but presidential aides, who, if they run for parliament, must retire from the presidential team officially.

In an interview with Interfax, Shakhray spoke at length about the possible nomination of Premier Victor Chernomyrdin to the Duma (one of the chambers in a future parliament) in a an electorial district from the Russian Unity and Concord Party. "We hope to get the Prime Minister's consent to that and will be one of the election bloc organizations to support his candidature," Shakhray remarked.

In his words, the party proceeds from the assumption that although the premier and president "could certainly lead some bloc or a party list, it is hardly sensible." There was understanding with Chernomyrdin on this issue too.

Shakhray remarked that the party had pledged political support to the premier at elections, but it would be for him to accept it or not. "Any way, we see no major reasons to object to the party nominating the prime minister in a constituency," Shakhray said and added that constituents themselves would make their choice. "I do not know whether Chernomyrdin has consented or not, but it is an open secret that he will be running for parliament from the Orenburg Region," Shakhray noted.

He is confident that affiliation of the current cabinet members with two different election blocs—Russia's Choice and the Russian Unity and Concord Party—will not divide the government. Ever since elections to the Duma were announced, each government official has regarded the cabinet as interim, to give way to a new government, to be formed by a new parliament along with the president.

As neither the president nor the prime minister link themselves to any bloc or party, there is no reason to claim a split in their teams, Shakhray believes.

In his words, his party is against joining forces with election blocs since that could lead to "unpredictable actions" by their newly elected deputies in parliament, since blocs tend to split or disintegrate. My party, he concluded, wants to seat in the State Duma people, bound by the party discipline and accountable to their party and their voters.

Yavlinskiy Criticizes Yeltsin's Policies

BR2210110593 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 19 Oct 93 p 15

[Interview with economist Grigoriy Yavlinskiy by Fiammetta Cucurnia in Moscow; date not given: "'Yeltsin Is Not The Man To Save Russia'—Yavlinskiy Launches Challenge For Presidential Elections"]

[Text] Moscow—When it was still the USSR, he was a "dissident economist" who became a victim of Brezhnev's repressive regime. During the Gorbachev era, he ended up in the Kremlin. He authored the famous "500-day economic reform plan" that caused a lot of hair to turn white among the last dinosaurs of the CPSU and forced the perestroyka leader to take an unexpected step backward. With the advent of Boris Yeltsin, he was behind the only relatively successful attempt at reform in Russia—in the city of Nizhni Novgorod [Gorky]—carried out in the past few years. And yet today, following the defeat of Parliament, economist Grigoriy Yavlinskiy is on the other side of the stockade—in the name of reform, the market economy, and democracy—and against Boris Yeltsin.

Dressed in American style clothes, and speaking English with definite traces of a New York accent, Yavlinskiy received us in his office on the 27th floor of Moscow City Hall. The building was partly destroyed in the recent clashes and is still patrolled by soldiers in camouflage carrying machine guns. It was Sunday morning but in the offices—still pungent with the smell of fire—people were at work just like any other day. The staff were bustling about, the computers were on, and hurried meetings were being held one after the other to prepare for the election campaign.

Together with the Republican Party, the Russian Christian Democrats, and the Social Democrats, Yavlinskiy has decided to enter the fray. Many little things have given him the impression that the Kremlin is afraid of him. The state television station rarely asks him to speak, and then only briefly. However, many people in Moscow think that he could become Boris Yeltsin's most serious opponent for the Russian presidency. Opinion polls conducted in recent weeks in Moscow and St. Petersburg rank him number one, with a popularity rating that is clearly higher than Yeltsin's.

[Cucurnia] Professor Yavlinskiy, why are you now siding with the opposition?

[Yavlinskiy] I do not think that repressive decrees can resolve any problems. Fighting the symptoms of the disease is like declaring war on ghosts. We must define the causes, and these lie in the failure of the policies implemented by the government, especially the economic policies. Two weeks ago, my group and I prepared a draft economic policy. The core of this policy can be easily summed up: Over the past two years there has been much talk about liberalization but, instead of liberating society from the totalitarian economy, we have failed to halt the totalitarian economic system. Thus, we now have a monopoly that dictates prices, company directors who are not owners, and bureaucrats who implement policies without ever assuming responsibility. The government has completed the collectivization of industry, transforming companies into enormous industrial kolkhozes where nobody understands anything: who runs them, where the money is, or who works in them. The managers think they are free, but they are still asking for money from the government. They think they are owners, but they are not. Thus, a new and absolutely unique system of interests has been created. Goods and services are traded without money, creating a giant parallel monetary flow that feeds the inflationary process and evades the central bank's control. These are, as it were, post- state-owned companies, neither private nor public, neither man nor woman. To put it simply, I would say that we have the Soviet economy minus the part that used to manage it. This is true in every sector. The government wants to overcome corruption and tame an inflation rate hovering at 40 percent per month without looking these realities in the face.

[Cucurnia] If I understand correctly, you are saying that the uprising and shooting on 3 and 4 October represented a big step backwards.

[Yavlinskiy] Certainly. I could analyze point by point the steps taken by Yeltsin in the political domain which led to this result. Undoubtedly, however, the spectacular failure of his economic policy was one of the main causes. Everything was done to create the impression that prices were free and dictated by free trade, but it just was not so. They said that the economy was free, but it is not, because there is neither ownership nor competition. It is a monolithic structure with no competition. This is a crucial point if you really want to understand the situation. Anyone who thinks that the kiosks that have opened up on the streets are the seed of a free market is living in a fantasy world.

The mistake lies in the fact that many people believed that the centralized planning of the past 70 years damaged the Russian economy. In actual fact, the Russian economy was created through planning and is the product of it. This does not mean that we should go back to the Gosplan system. On the contrary, it means that, if things are to change, we need to start from scratch. We need to tackle the root causes, not the effects. If we want to have a more or less stable budget and monetary policy, then we have to make a choice: Either everything is state-owned and prices are fixed, or there is a free market and free prices. There are no alternatives. When Gaydar realized that he could no longer manage fixed prices because in the chaos everything was getting out of hand, he decided to liberalize prices. However, he should have known that he could not leave what was still a completely monopolistic economy at the mercy of free prices. He should have moved around and continually made adjustments on a trial-and-error basis. This was not done. Things cannot go on like this. Either we attack the root of the problem or there will be chaos—inevitable and uncontrollable.

[Cucurnia] Perhaps it will be easier now that Parliament has been defeated.

[Yavlinskiy] At this point—from a political viewpoint also—there are only two choices: an authentic democratic process or a similarly authentic authoritarian regime. However, we should ask ourselves whether Parliament was really the problem. We should ask ourselves who fired the shots in the square on 3 and 4 October. I think they came from our past, including the last two or three years. They arose out of the mistakes of the economic reform, a policy cobbled together from quarrels and threats, lacking strategy or wisdom, and left to chance. It is true that Parliament and the Constitution were changed. But there were undoubtedly many other ways of achieving new elections. This Parliament gave Yeltsin special powers and when, in spring 1992, it asked how they would be used and toward what end, he said: "I don't like you and I am not telling you anything. In fact I am shutting you out." So, who chose Rutskoy? Who chose Khasbulatov? Yeltsin chose them. If you do not know where you are going and what you want to do, you will not be in a position to choose men to help you.

[Cucurnia] In your opinion, which of the two alternatives is gaining the upper hand: democracy or dictatorship?

[Yavlinskiy] It is absolutely clear that we are faced with an authoritarian regime, albeit a soft one for now. We will see how it turns out.

[Cucurnia] Now, however, there will be elections.

[Yavlinskiy] For you who observe from the outside, it will be interesting to see how an authoritarian leader tries to hold "democratic elections" to strengthen his own regime. Yesterday, we saw the appearance of a new government-party bloc. It is no coincidence that the president's press attache said that, at the request of the workers, the presidential elections would not be held in June. It is not difficult to predict the outcome: We will return to having a single power, not unlike the Mafia, in the government and parliament.

[Cucurnia] In your view, however, will it be possible for this stage to be governed in a more or less secure manner, albeit under an authoritarian regime?

[Yavlinskiy] Absolutely not. That is my opinion. We are talking about an enormous country comprising many entities and without any support or ideology binding them together, without a foreign enemy, and without a truly unified economy. None of the essential conditions have been met to ensure that such a regime can control the situation. The same conditions prevailed in the 1920's. When those conditions ceased to exist, the Soviet regime—the most powerful in the world—collapsed. Anyone who does not understand that is kidding himself and his illusions will be shattered.

[Cucurnia] Nevertheless, you decided to run for election.

[Yavlinskiy] Frankly, I think there is little we can do. Moreover, election campaign rules change daily and last no longer than a week. However, these will be the last elections for a long time. And even if they are held in a state of emergency, with even the most basic freedom denied, I feel obliged to do my best to try to create a genuine parliament capable of working correctly. I am well aware that this is not very realistic. In the end, however, hope is the last thing to die, and I believe in Russia and the citizens of this unfortunate country of mine.

Media Issues

New Federal Assembly Press Service Formed

LD2110161693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1136 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—A press service of the future federal assembly of the Russian Federation is being set up in Moscow.

Chief of the federal assembly's administration, Vladimir Podoprigora, has appointed Valentina Lantseva chief of the press service. Until July, 1993, Lantseva had worked in the press service of the Russian parliament.

Since a statute on the administration of the federal assembly has not been signed yet and is reported to be under consideration by the Russian president's administration, the press service of the federal assembly has not received a definite status yet, but it is carrying out organizational work," Lantseva said.

She said that the press service was temporarily given a room in a building in Novy Arbat Street, 19. Lantseva hopes that in the near future a joint press bureau will be established for journalists who cover preparations for elections to the new parliament.

Former workers of the parliamentary press centre managed to remove from the White House lists of correspondents accredited in Russia. "After some corrections are made, the lists will be valid again," Lantseva suggested.

At present, members of the former parliament press service are working at a newly established press centre on a voluntary basis. So far, they receive no wages and no vacation allowances, Lantseva said.

PRAVDA 'To Resume Publishing Next Week'

PM2110113693 London THE EUROPEAN in English 21-24 Oct 93 p 16

[Roman Rollnick report: "Why Silence Speaks Louder Than Words"]

[Excerpt] Moscow—The editors of the banned communist daily PRAVDA intend to resume publishing next week with a series of articles that are certain to upset President Yeltsin.

While the paper's editors and publishers haggle over the Yeltsin government over the banning, PRAVDA journalists have been preparing a story on how some of the tank commanders who broke the last stand of the White House hardliners have disappeared.

The article implies that they were so ashamed of shelling a landmark in central Moscow and firing on fellow Russians that they have gone into hiding. Other officers contacted by PRAVDA are said to be too embarrassed to wear their uniforms in public.

PRAVDA believes that the army is deeply divided in its support for Yeltsin. It is also preparing reports on what has happened to the communist opposition and how it views the international reaction to the situation in Russia.

One of about a dozen newspapers banned since the army crackdown, PRAVDA has nevertheless called its 220 journalists and production staff to work every day in the hope that it will be allowed to publish. But they are not being paid and continue to resist demands by the government that they change the papers name and dismiss the editor, Gennadiy Seleznev. [passage omitted]

Press Ministry Issues Statement on Banned Publications

LD2110175493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0430 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, 21 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—"Now that some time has passed since the tragic events of 3-4 October 1993, we are able to assess more even-handedly the role played in these events by a number of mass information media, the activities of which have now been suspended or banned completely," says a statement by the Russian Ministry of Press and Information, issued on Wednesday.

The statement notes that "it is no secret to anyone that publications, such as the dailies DEN, NARODNAYA PRAVDA, and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA were, in essence, the ideological headquarters preparing the mutiny, persistently peddling what they published—an openly confrontational attitude toward economic and political reforms in our society, the president, and the government.

"Those in charge of these papers, including the sacked PRAVDA and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA editors, should have and could have foreseen what various published material on their pages would push their readers to do. And not only did they foresee it, but they also made a contribution of their own to preparing the mutiny, a contribution damned by God and the people alike.

"Blood has been shed, dozens of lives have been made a misery—this is the price paid by the people for the extravagant political ambitions of these 'men eternally rooted in the past', who threw in their lot with extreme rightwing nationalists, fascists, and their ilk.

"Throughout the world, civilized opposition media offer society various ways of overcoming crises, but they do not push people toward senseless bloodshed—it is by doing this that they have put themselves outside the law.

"As for such publications as RUSSKIY PORYADOK, K TOPORU, and their like, which openly preach manhating fascist ideology, here the ministry can only be deservedly reproached with their closure only after the bloody drama had taken its course.

"It would seem that any normal person would hardly nurture doubts about the legitimacy of this step by the ministry. However, some defenders of the law, both at home and abroad, contrary to commonsense, advocate 'a civilized solution to the question', as though they have forgotten the truth that where fascism begins civilization ends. In urging us to follow the norms of international law, the advocates of fascist nationalism deliberately keep silent about the fact that the activities of the ministry are strictly in line with the international pact on civil and political rights, which was

adopted on 19 December 1966, and which says, in part: 'Any move in support of nationalist, racist or religious hatred, which may be interpreted as an incitement to discrimination, enmity or violence, must be prohibited by law' (Art.20, para 2).

"That is precisely why, without fear of far-fetched or what amounts to speculative accusations of dictatorship, we state with all responsibility that the fascist press will always be outside the law, no matter what guise it may care to adopt.

"Responsibility for the blood that has been shed must be borne by the leaders, the instigators, and the participants in the armed rebellion, and they will bear it.

"If one speaks about PRAVDA and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, then the activities of these publications were not banned, but suspended, and they will be restored once the requirements of the legislation have been fulfilled.

"The blame for the suspension of the GLASNOST newspaper, the publication of the CPSU Central Committee body, lies with the editors themselves who so far have not considered it necessary to comply with the legislation and have sought to see themselves as some kind of active founder instead of a nonexistent Central Committee.

"The newspaper YESHCHE, which was not connected with the bloody events of October, has openly tried to deprive its readers of any moral basis. It would seem that activity of this kind, and calls for the destruction of any kind of morals and morality, are no less dangerous to society than calls for the restoration of the power of the CPSU.

"Aggressive amorality, with its decadent influence, is no less dangerous to our society than fascism, and we intend to wage a constant and bitter struggle against it."

Satellite Problems Delay Central Newspapers in Far East

OW2210044393 Vladivostok Radio Vladivostok Network in Russian 0310 GMT 21 Oct 93

[From the "Lunch Hour Break" program]

[Text] Our editorial desk this week received several letters concerning the publication and delivery to subscribers of central, as well as local, newspapers. Olga Shevchuk from Vladivostok asks why IZVESTIYA, ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI, and other papers, are being delayed by four or five days when previously they came a day after publication?

The ROSPECHYAT AGENCY explained to us that this is due to trouble with the communications satellite. Currently, the central newspapers are not being printed in Vladivostok, as in the past, but in other cities, and then from there they are delivered to us. The schedule of newspaper delivery will be restored immediately after the satellite is repaired.

Many residents of the Maritime Kray are interested to know why the TIKHIY OKEAN and the VOSTOK ROSSII newspapers have not been published recently. The editorial boards of the newspapers informed us that this was due to technical difficulties; however, the staff of the TIKHIY OKEAN newspaper said that in spite of this, they hope to publish the next issue on Saturday, and the VOSTOK ROSSII newspaper next week.

Election Issues

Lineup of Parliamentary Election Blocs Explained

PM2110163793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 2

[Tatyana Akkuratova report under "Russia Before the Elections" rubric: "Ten Blocs and Seven Parties Are Going Into the Elections. This Is the Present Distribution of the Forces Which Have Formed To Conduct the Election Campaign"]

[Text] Ten major blocs and seven organizations and parties—this is the present distribution of the forces which have taken shape in the course of the election campaign. Vyacheslav Volkov, deputy leader of the presidential administration, reported this at a meeting with journalists.

He listed them as follows in order of importance: the **Russia's Choice bloc**, which includes the Democratic Russia movement, the Peasant Party, "Living Ring," and others. The leaders are Gaydar, Shumeyko, and Pamfilova. The **Trade Unions for Reforms and Elections Joint Center**—this bloc of a number of free trade unions which do not belong to the FITUR [Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia] unites approximately 3 million people, and its leaders are Nektasov, Misik, and Sergeyev. Advocating a strong social thrust to the reforms, the bloc will hardly experience difficulties in collecting 100 million [as published] signatures.

The Economic Freedom Party (Borovoy), the Russian Party of Free Labor (Kivelidi), and the Party of Constitutional Democrats (Zolotukhin) have formed the **right-liberal bloc**—this name is conditional at present. The bloc has an accord on joint actions with Salye's party; Kivelidi is also seeking allies with free trade unions. Finally, a union with Shakhray's party is also possible. The name of **Yavlinskiy's bloc**, created on the basis of his "Epicenter," is also conditional at present. It includes a section of the Republican Party and the Social Democratic Party, and it could include those free trade unions which have not joined the "Trade Unions for Reforms and Elections" joint center. In addition to Yavlinskiy, the party's leaders include Lysenko, Shostakovskiy, and Lukin. The bloc could have problems collecting the necessary signatures—whereas in Moscow it found a party linchpin in the Republican Party, its branches in 49 regions of Russia supported Russia's Choice.

The idea of the **Association of Independent Professionals** (Filippov) came into being literally a few days ago—the idea being that true professionals should get into the new parliament.

Despite the withdrawal of the Democratic Party of Russia from **Civic Union**, the virtual cessation of the activity of "Smena-New Policy," the suspension of the activity of the Free Russia-People's Party, and the collapse of Civic Union's actual position, it will nonetheless participate in the elections. It is now based on the All-Russia Renewal Union (Vladislavlev) and the Free Russia youth movement, and the question of the participation of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (Volskiy) in Civic Union has also been decided. Civic Union's success or failure will depend on their program and the centrists' penitence in defining their own role in the events that occurred in Moscow.

The **Russian Women's Association** includes the Russian Women's Union, the Union of Navy Women, and the Association of Women Entrepreneurs. The **bloc of left-wing forces** is to be based on the Socialist Party of Working People (the bloc's leaders include Vartazarova, Denisov, Sklyar, Medvedev, and Klochkov), and active consultations are also proceeding with the FITUR. In elections under the proportional system the communists could attempt to turn this bloc into an alternative to the democratic forces.

The parties and organizations include the Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms (its leaders include Sobchak, Popov, Yakovlev, and Shaposhnikov); the Democratic Party of Russia (Travkin, Govorukhin, and O. Bogomolov); the Russian Christian Democratic Party, which is very small but possesses considerable funds from similar Western parties; the Party of Russian Unity and Accord ("Shakhray's party"), which has a very great deal in common with the Russia's Choice bloc, with which Volkov believes there will be close cooperation in the future; the Liberal Democratic Party (Zhirinovskiy and Zavidiya); the Russian National Union; and the Agrarian Party, leadership of which has been offered to Zaveryukha, Zorkin, and Shcherbak. Zaveryukha has not yet consented, and Zorkin, as is known, has declined to participate in the elections.

Movements, Parties Barred From Elections Listed

PM2110141193 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 1

[Vladimir Yermolin report: "Who Has Been Barred From the Elections"]

[Text] On 19 October Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin signed the Edict "On Certain Measures To Ensure State and Public Security in the Period of the Election Campaign 1993." By the president's decision, organizations, public associations, and parties which have "crossed themselves out of the system of democracy by turning into terrorist formations," have been excluded from the upcoming campaign.

The list of such organizations has turned out to be shorter than was previously believed. It includes the National Salvation Front, the "Officers' Union" public club, the "Shchit" social-legal alliance for the protection of servicemen, persons subject to military service obligation, and members of their families, the Russian Communist Working Party, the Russian Young Communist League, and Russian National Unity. Organizations which have behind them the names of Konstantinov, Terekhov, Urazhtsev, Anpilov, Malyarov, and Barkashov.

"Giving such public associations full freedom to canvas within the framework of an election campaign would mean not only creating a new threat to the state system and public security," the edict says, "but it would also mean making a mockery of the memory of those who died, having removed the threat of civil war from the country."

The edict stipulates that persons in the banned organizations can put forward their candidacies at the elections to the Federal Assembly with the exception of those "who have been charged in accordance with the procedure established by law in connection with the armed revolt 3-4 October 1993 in the city of Moscow and earlier in connection with armed attacks on the headquarters of the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command."

It is likely that the Russian National Union, headed by Sergey Baburin, will be one of the organizations in which activists and supporters of the National Salvation Front will be concentrated today for the purpose of participating in the election campaign. The editorial office has been informed that candidacies for the "party list" were discussed at a sitting of the Russian National Union board. Apart from Baburin himself, Svetlana Goryacheva, Valentin Varennikov, Vasiliy Belov, Nikolay Pavlov, and Ivan Fedoseyev were named.

Communists, Free Russia Not Banned

PM2110104193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

["Own information" report: "Parties Which Organized Rebellion Deprived of Right To Take Part in Elections"]

[Excerpts] Russian President Boris Yeltsin has deprived a number of public associations which "provoked and organized the armed rebellion" in Moscow 3-4 October of the right to take part in the 12 December elections. [passage omitted]

However, the Russian Federation Communist Party (leader Gennadiy Zyuganov) and the "Free Russia" people's party, whose activity was suspended by the Ministry of Justice during the days of the state of emergency in Moscow are not among the parties banned from registering.

Communists To Enter Elections, Hold Conference

LD2110201893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1743 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Leaders of the Russian Communist Party [RCP] meeting behind the scenes in Moscow on Thursday have agreed to take part in elections to the Federal Assembly in December.

A final statement signed by RCP leader Gennadiy Zyuganov says many of the delegates pointed out that the election campaign will be held in a non-democratic atmosphere with many opposition parties and newspapers being banned.

At the same time, unlike other parties and groups the RCP is opposed to boycotting the election.

The party leadership has decided to call a RCP conference on October 26.

Banned Parties Seek Indirect Ways To Elect Candidates

MK2110120093 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 68, 21 Oct 93 (signed to press 20 Oct) p 2

[Andrey Nikolayev report under the "Campaign" rubric: "Public Committee of Democratic Organizations of Russia Fears Victory for Communists and Urges Regional Democrats To Coordinate Efforts"]

[Text] Participants in the coordination session of the Public Committee for Democratic Organizations of Russia [PCDOR] voiced their apprehension at "the premature nature of the upcoming elections" and at a quite realistic "future victory for the Communists" in them. Considering the political situation in the country, in the opinion of Marina Salye, chairman of the Free Democratic Party of Russia, it would be wise to extend presidential rule. Then, a constitution for the transition period should be passed by either the Constitutional Conference or at a referendum, and only then should elections be called, not for parliament but for a Constitutional Assembly. Otherwise, according to Mrs. Salye, democratic forces would be obliged to go to the elections to lose.

One may expect that the most acute struggle at the coming elections, if they take place on 12 December, will be for the votes in one-candidate districts. The opposition would try to win back by nominating independent candidates. Since these will be one-round elections and the winner will be a candidate winning the majority of votes against the other candidates, "the democratic organizations, if they nominate several candidates, will suffer an utter defeat." In this connection the PCDOR passed a call "to all democratic forces" in the regions for coordinating their efforts and nominating only one candidate in each one-candidate district.

But even in this case, in the opinion of Russian Public Center expert Irina Kaverzina, residents in the regions who are weary of politics would most probably prefer to vote for former members of the party nomenklatura and Soviet economic managers whom they still remember from the times when sausages were cheaper.

The other, and very realistic, chance for the communists and pro- communist organizations is to sneak through the "gate" of the so- called "civilized opposition," who did not stain themselves during the October putsch. More so, because these intentions were already openly stated by the communist opposition leaders themselves, for example by Gennadiy Zyuganov, who called his comrades-in-struggle to act also via trade unions.

Obviously, even if the banned parties do not try to re-register themselves under different names, they would regroup themselves around several permitted parties and public-political movements of similar ideology. As for trade unions, strange as it is, no one at all would be able to make it to the Federal Assembly, perhaps be they left-wingers or right-wingers. Unlike parties and movements, trade unions cannot nominate their own lists of candidates in the federal district. Therefore they are obliged to look for places in these same permitted parties and movements so as to nominate several of their own candidates in a bloc with them. It is a different matter that they may give their allies financial or organizational support during the election campaign. It is also likely that a number of parties and candidates, including those of the banned organizations, can count on such support from the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia [FITUR]. Even more so because the latest extraordinary FITUR plenum, where Mr. Shmakov was appointed acting chairman to replace Mr. Romanov, gives grounds to believe that an election campaign so vigorously disowned of late is under way after all in sectoral trade unions.

Yeltsin Aide Views Parties' Readiness for Election

PM2110133193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Article by A. Rakitov, head of the President's Administration Analytical Center for General Politics: "Election Marathon"]

[Text] According to the data of the Russian Federation President's Administration Center for Operational Information, the situation in the country is pretty quiet and stable on the whole. The degree of tension that there is is connected mainly with the socioeconomic conditions of life, which are continuing to deteriorate, rather than with political events. In fact, politics has receded into the background, as it were.

In the light of the continuing resistance in some regions to the executive and legislative branches of authority and the tragic events in Moscow on 3-4 October, there has been a marked increase in the number of inhabitants of Russia voicing support for the president's actions.

At the same time, there is still a rather high percentage of people who hold the opposite view or who are undecided. They constitute on average 40 percent, and in some regions (Kalmykia, Chuvashia, and a number of others) they constitute a majority. At the same time, it should be noted that the level of support for the president is considerably higher than the level of confidence in general in the federal executive authority.

In most regions the situation is characterized by the fact that the bulk of the population has not yet decided where it stands politically. On the one hand, this situation has been contributed to by the ban on the main opposition political organizations and their press, whose influence in the provinces must not be underestimated, and, on the other hand, by the disbandment and termination of the activities of local soviets. In the conditions of ideological and political uncertainty and confusion among the supporters of the diehards, special importance attaches to the organizational activity of parties and blocs looking to the elections.

At the moment only a few party associations can aspire to seats in parliament as real and sufficiently well organized regional political forces. First and foremost you have the organizations of the "Russia's Choice" bloc, which are virtually established now at local level.

Such parties and movements as the Democratic Patry of Russia, Social Democratic Party of Russia, Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms, Economic Freedom Party, trade unions, and Cossacks in various regions are either members of "Russia's Choice" or are preparing to act independently and form other blocs.

At the same time, there is no unity in the parties that can actually aspire to seats. This is particularly noticeable in the positions of the Democratic Party's regional organizations. There is little likelihood that it will manage to present a single Russia-wide list of candidates. Unity of actions on the part of regional branches of the Republican Party and some others is similarly unlikely.

Banned organizations have not made their mark so far. But it has been suggested that they may go to the elections in the form of specific associations (voters' clubs and so on) or informally join blocs that are operating under patriotic slogans. Particularly as some of the parties have apparently been permitted to participate in the elections.

So it can be said that it is mainly the leading democratically orientated political forces largely backing the Russian president's course that have actually joined the election campaign.

The centrists have made a poor showing so far, in particular the so-called constructive opposition, orientated toward "Civic Union." The "diehards" have not recovered from the shock either. The democrats' organizational advantage cannot be regarded at the moment as a strong guarantee of their victory, since it is not absolutely clear whether they have the mass support of the population, which it is impossible to determine at the moment.

Burbulis, Others Announce Candidacy for Parliament

LD2110142893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1318 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Gennadiy Burbulis, a former aide of the Russian president, Lev Ponomarev and Gleb Yakunin, leaders of the Democratic Russia movement, as well as lawyers Andrey Makarov and Boris Zolotukhin are going to run for the Upper Chamber (Federation Council) of the new Russian Parliament by themselves.

They were all omitted from the election list to the Lower chamber (State Duma) filed by the "Choice of Russia" bloc formed by First Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar.

A member of the "Choice of Russia" Sergey Yushenkov told TASS that the leader of the Peasants' Party Yuriy Chernichenko refused to be on the list of the election bloc and said he would run for the Federation Council by himself.

The final list of candidates of the "Choice of Russia" will be ready by Friday and submitted to the Central Election Commission, according to Yushenkov.

The bloc was only yesterday registered by the Justice Ministry as a public movement. Yushenkov said the bloc has branches in all Russian regions and republics.

He expressed hope that in future the bloc will develop into a political party.

Experts beleieve the "Choice of Russia" can count on 30 per cent of votes at the polls.

Grachev: 'No Intention' To Join Election Campaign

LD2110163493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1426 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev told Interfax that he has no intention of joining the race for the new federal parliament.

"If the military begins to join one political bloc or another, this will only have a negative impact on the Army's combat capacity," he said.

Grachev negatively assessed the active participation of many cabinet ministers and deputy premiers in the election campaign. "Each man must mind his own business, not join political campaigns," the defense minister said.

Gaydar, Shakhray Comment on Political Programs

MK2210112093 Moscow OBSHCHAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 14/16, 22-28 Oct 93 (signed to press 21 Oct) p 8

[Interview with Yegor Gaydar and Sergey Shakhray by Yelena Dikun: "The Government Does Not Intend To Watch Parliament Through Binoculars; It Goes Down to the Stalls"; place and date not given]

[Text] By all predictions, Russia's Choice and the Russian Unity and Accord Party will become the most influential forces in the elections. Their appearance has brought about a lot of rumors and speculation, primarily because both associations have been created on the initiative of government members and their leaders are two Russian vice premiers—Yegor Gaydar and Sergey Shakhray. It is interesting to know why people who have already attained considerable "heights" want to get entangled in a struggle for deputy mandates. There are plenty of candidates without them, thank God.

[Dikun] If you get a majority in parliament, what obligations will you assume?

[Gaydar] I think that we will be able to address several fundamental tasks: Above all, control inflation in our economy and make our government more cost effective. In this context we can assume the obligations of lowering the tax burden on the national economy, and making social policy more sensible and the economy more open, with tough competition and import of goods. We must conduct a radical legal reform and have a contemporary Civil Code and a decent legislation guaranteeing property rights. What I am saying is not very much. We are not promising to turn our country into a Kuwait within four years, but it is quite realistic to lead it onto the road of stable economic growth.

[Shakhray] I think that it is necessary to become chairman of the State Duma. This chamber will have three functions. First, participation in forming the government. Apparently, elections held on a partisan basis, combined with the majority system, will sharply raise the question that the premier should be either the parliament majority leader or a person who is accepted and supported by this "majority." In this connection we must ensure the continuity and gradualism of the transition of power in a correct and consistent form. I would like to point out that Chernomyrdin supports our party, but we would not recommend to him to bind himself in the elections with any association—it is better to compete in a territorial constituency.

The second prerogative of the State Duma is law making. Therefore, by taking part in the elections we hope to realize the accumulated law making potential. Approximately 80 draft laws and decrees were actually swept under the rug in the former Supreme Soviet, and they are very necessary now for economic reform, for consolidating the legal order, and changing the Civil and Penal Codes.

The third task—it might be somewhat personal—is that I hope to create the political mechanism of a federal state. For us it would be an asset to have two, at most three nationwide parties permeating society from bottom to top. This will allow the creation of a system of political responsibility, political struggle, and political oversight, built on a multiparty basis. The foundation of our party is the federative function—in other words, a combination of economic and political interests of the regions with statewide interests. Left or right radicalism is unacceptable to us because the interests of the hinterland are closer to the center of the political spectrum. It is not accidental that our party has yet another name—the All-Russia Conservative Party. This means reliance on conservative values—family, property, and the state.

[Dikun] Today the plan is to elect parliament for four years. Who established this term and how does it correspond to Paragraph 3 of the Edict "On Phased Constitutional Reform in the Russian Federation" whereby it is a provisional body formed on the basis of the Statute on the Federal Power Bodies During the Transition Period?

[Gaydar] The four-year term has been taken from the draft constitution approved by the Constitutional Conference. Russia's Choice, however, regards this parliament as temporary; in other words, it must fulfill its main functions within two years and dissolve itself, announcing elections to a new parliament.

[Shakhray] Paragraph 3 of Edict 1400 indeed did not specify the exact term of parliament's powers. But the Chinese say that a transition period is a time span between a nontransitional period and another transition period. It seemed to me that at present parliament should be elected for two years. This is a sufficiently large term which allows, without upheavals, after executing a number of constituent functions of the transition period, to move over to a new parliament elected by the people. I do not rule out that the deputy corps, having defined its tasks and functions after the elections, may make this decision.

[Dikun] How are you planning to combine work in parliament with your vice chairmanship? After all, we are talking about a professional parliament where it is necessary to sit in commissions, committees, and meet with the voters. And you already have to work 18 hours a day in the government.

[Gaydar] Margaret Thatcher, who was also a member of parliament, nonetheless devoted part of her time to housing reform in Britain and to privatization, and not to working in committees and commissions or meetings with voters. This is a usual practice in many countries where the parliament and the government are not on different sides of the barricade, not opposed to each other, but working together. Incidentally, any government member, whether or not he is a deputy, a priori works with parliament to a considerable extent because otherwise he simply does not fulfill his functions. At the

end of the day, all the budget decisions, major laws, and ongoing executive decisions pass through parliament. But should we lose the elections and therefore not form a government, then of course, we will have to concentrate on working in parliament, protecting the interests of the people whom we represent there, maintaining a sound budget policy and trying to push through normal market legislation.

[Shakhray] We must finally draw conclusions from our own experience, which has shown that the principles of separation of powers and the incompatibility of the deputy's mandate with work in the government, transferred to Russian reality, have not had enough time to produce a positive effect or have produced none, while the negative effect has been colossal. The government could not appear in the Supreme Soviet or on the contrary, it was summoned there nearly every day; a wide split emerged between the executive and the legislative branches. To prevent this from ending with another storming of parliament or government, it is necessary to provide for a mechanism of their responsible interaction. Parliament is a place where political and economic interests are coordinated; therefore the government must not watch it through binoculars, but work in it.

[Dikun] Are you not frightened that the government will end up being torn apart by various factions of the State Duma which will affect the coordinated nature of its work? Will this not provoke a government crisis?

[Gaydar] This is possible, without question. Yet look at how this problem is addressed in Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, or Italy and France. Parliamentary coalitions are formed there. This is always a matter of compromise because it involves distribution of seats. Parties ready to enter a government, however, assume certain obligations to support the government course, and the latter for its part undertakes to pursue at least some of the parties' program provisions.

[Shakhray] There are two aspects to everything. On one hand, factions will be claiming government members, but on the other, government members, by leading a particular faction, will be attracting it to the government or to some vector of interaction. I think that neither of the blocs will win in a pure form here and that therefore a coalition will be needed. This makes for the viability of both parliament and government.

[Dikun] Political need forces you to side with the most diverse people. Do you therefore not have to abandon your moral principles?

[Gaydar] In politics one must, of course, be committed to principles but one cannot be a sectarian. If people generally share those ideas and program values which I maintain, I am quite ready to collaborate with them and seek compromise.

[Shakhray] In everything there should be a line that must not be crossed. By proclaiming "new conservatism", we have also inscribed on our banner the principle of a moral criterion for the association. We do not want, in pursuit of an illusory number of votes, party members, or electors, to lose our identity. Therefore we shall not take part in broad blocs—they dissolve the organization and breed conflicts within it; movement stops and in the final analysis the voters are again deceived.

Gaydar Outlines Russia's Choice Platform

LD2110195293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1333 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] First Vice Prime Minister, leader of the Russia's Choice election bloc, Yegor Gaydar believes that his bloc will hold a firm position in the future parliament. At a press conference today, he said that Russia's Choice was ready to cooperate with the Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms headed by Anatoliy Sobchak and Gavril Popov, Russian Unity and Accord Party with Sergey Shakhray as its leader and Grigory Yavlinskiy's election bloc.

Gaydar admitted that the decision to combine the post of people's deputy with membership in the government was far from ideal. Though, he pointed out he will not try to convince the president to annul his own decree on the issue.

Speaking on Russia's Choice's economic program, Gaydar said its main principle was a gradual relief of the economy from the burden of the state sector along with adoption of laws providing guarantees for private ownership. He pointed out that his bloc found itself in a much simpler situation than others. "We stand up for the policy that the government is pursuing today," the first vice prime minister stressed.

Gaydar said the presidential decree to allow free trade of land was nearly ready for signing. In his opinion, it must be the president to sign such an important document, since the future parliament may delay deciding on the issue.

Answering the journalists' questions, the first vice prime minister called a dramatic decrease in the inflation rate one of the current government's top priority goals. "If we fail to achieve drastic progress in this issue, all the decisions on the back-up of entrepreneurship and production growth will remain on the paper," he added.

Gaydar said he was confident that the ruble's exchange rate will not change dramatically. He pointed out that the ruble had grown considerably against the dollar over the last nine months. He pointed out that over this period the prices went up by 6 times, while the dollar rate only by twice.

Chernomyrdin Named as Candidate for State Duma

LD2210075593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2035 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Excerpt] Moscow, 21 October—The election campaign is under way in all regions of Russia. Electoral commissions are being set up, electoral associations are being

formed, and candidates are being put forward. Our correspondents have reported from various regions of the country on the course of preparations for the elections to the Federal Assembly:

Orenburg (Urals): A meeting of the electorate of the town of Novotroytsk has put forward Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin as their candidate for the post of deputy to the State Duma for Orsk constituency. Viktor Chernomyrdin was born in the village of Chernyy Otrog in Orenburg oblast. He worked for several years at Orsk enterprises and was the head of the Orenburg gas processing works. The same meeting recommended Vladimir Yelagin, head of the oblast administration, for the Federation Council. [passage omitted: parties name candidates in St.Petersburg; electoral bloc formed in Buryatia]

Filatov on Elections, Royal Family's Reburial

PM2210104393 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Oct 93 p 3

[Unattributed report: "From Hostility to Cooperation. Sergey Filatov Believes a Genuine Separation of Powers Is Possible Only With a New Parliament"]

[Text] "The principle of the separation of powers was recently taken to absurd lengths in our country," Sergey Filatov, head of the Russian Federation President's Administration, believes. At a recent news conference he made it clear that until recently there was no separation of powers as such in Russia. Instead of a normal differentiation of powers and responsibilities, the alienation of one branch of power from the other was constantly being fueled. To a high degree of hostility. In fact, the denouement which came about in September-October quite fully characterizes these relations—between the representative power and the executive.

Where are the guarantees now that the Federal Assembly's relations with the government and the president will shape up more happily? Sergey Filatov believes that they consist in the fact that some government structures will be integrated with representative structures. In fact, the presence of vice premiers and ministers of the present cabinet in the ranks of the candidates for deputies' seats attests precisely to the real possibility of such integration. Filatov, incidentally, is not opposed to members of the newly elected government entering the State Duma as well. In his opinion, "this will only enrich the legislative process." The possibility cannot be ruled out that corresponding changes will be made to the draft of the constitution on which work is now under way.

Journalists, chiefly Western ones, were interested in how "equality on the air" will be ensured for all the forces participating in the elections. Sergey Filatov reported on the president's corresponding edict on this score, which provides precisely for equal conditions to be created in the organization of election campaigning.

It was no coincidence that the question of "air-time equality" arose. Seventeen parties, blocs, and movements have already expressed their desire to participate in the election campaign. If Vyacheslav Bragin, chairman of the board of the "Ostankino" All-Russia State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company, attends the founding congress of the "Russia's Choice" bloc with voting rights, does this mean that the rest can seriously count on the fairness of the state television and radio company?

A question which would not appear to have a direct bearing on the news conference's chief topic—the elections—also arose during it. Sergey Filatov informed journalists that preparations are being made to rebury the remains of the royal family. A state commission headed by Vice Premier Yuriy Yarov is even being set up. Only after this, Filatov believes, will it be possible to embark on restoring Red Square's historical appearance (the fate of the Mausoleum and its occupant seems to have been predetermined).

After 12 December the Russians will learn whether Russia itself is destined to have its historical appearance restored with the help of the new parliament.

'Women of Russia' Group Nominates Election Candidates

LD2110175293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1614 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Ivanova]

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—The voters' association "Women of Russia" approved a list of candidates for the forthcoming elections to the state Duma, a lower chamber of a new Russian legislature.

The electorial list, consisting of 44 candidates from 23 out of 89 Russian regions, opens with Chairwoman of the Russian Women's Union Alevtina Fedulova, advisor to the Russian president on women's affairs Yekaterina Lakhova and Russian people's artist Natalia Gundareva.

Founded by the Russian Women's Union, the Association of Women- Entrepreneurs and the Russian Navy Women's Union, the association said it views policy as a tool of ensuring peace and consent. Market economy is considered to be an instrument of improving people's life quality.

Human-oriented social policy, order and safety should be a top priority of the state, the association's election programme said.

Candidates Discuss Russia Choice's Political Agenda

OW2210032393 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel and Orbita Networks in Russian 1945 GMT 18 Oct 93

[Interviews with Aleksandr Sergeyevich Sergeyev and Mansur Kalyamovich Shingareyev, Russia's Choice bloc

candidates for the Ulyanovsk Oblast State Duma, by Vladimir Belyayev; place and date not given; from the "Utro" program—recorded]

[Text] [Belyayev] The Russia's Choice movement is one of the big collective members of the Russia's Choice bloc, which recently held its constituent congress. The movement Ulyanovsk Oblast candidates for the State Duma are taking part in our program today. They are Aleksandr Sergeyevich Sergeyev and Mansur Kalyamovich Shingareyev. What did you think of the recent congress?

[Sergeyev] I would give it top rating because new people emerged as leaders of the bloc, and although they were known as a team economists—they carried out reforms beginning in 1991 and, in my opinion, achieved certain success in spite of all the difficulties—they now show themselves to be a team of politicians of the highest level.

[Belyayev] The leitmotifs of the adopted program of the Russia's Choice bloc are freedom, property, and the law. If you are elected deputies of the State Duma, what will you do?

[Sergeyev] I think the entrepreneur has to be protected first and foremost, because if the entrepreneur fails to make an appearance, we will not be able to solve very many questions.

Among other speakers, a cultural representative told our congress that unfortunately the present budget allowed no money for culture. Therefore, the logical chain one can follow is as follows: If the Dyagilevs [reference to pre-revolution entrepreneur and art promoter] fail to make an appearance, there will be no allocation for culture. Therefore, if we want the Dyagilevs, we have to create a legal basis which will allow them to feel confident. To create such a legal basis we have to adopt laws, and to adopt laws there must be deputies who understand which laws have to be adopted. And so that these deputies do not repeat the mistakes of our two previous parliaments, I think our congress, which has served as the forerunner of the future ruling party—which I am sure will be founded after 12 December—has made it possible to achieve an efficient parliament while maintaining elementary discipline.

[Shingareyev] Privatization must be intensified. Direct state subsidies are needed to open numerous business courses. If necessary, they should be opened in the schools, particularly in graduation classes, and give people a general idea of business and entrepreneurial activity, of prices and their formation —in other words, to prepare people economically so that they learn how to support themselves.

I think worthy that a person learns how to catch fish rather than sitting with an outstretched hand waiting for someone to give them a fish. And no matter how many fish they are given, they always go bad. Therefore, if the state declares it is turning from a totalitarian economy to a free economy, then people should be taught the rudiments. Just as in elementary education, it should simply be given to everyone.

I think entrepreneurs themselves will lower the colossal prices because they will compete with each other. In other words, I dream about the growth of numerous competitors.

Republicans Join Yavlinskiy Bloc; Filatov May Run

MK2110112193 Moscow KURANTY in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 1

[Interviews with Vladimir Lysenko, cochairman of the Russian Federation Republican Party; and Sergey Filatov, presidential administration chief, by Konstantin Katanyan under the "Only for KURANTY" rubric: "Parliament Without Communists"; place and date not given]

[Text]**Vladimir Lysenko, cochairman of the Russian Federation Republican Party**

[Katanyan] Are the Republicans really part of the "Russia's Choice" bloc? Or did you attend their congress only as an observer?

[Lysenko] I was a guest at that forum. A total of 34 regional organizations of the Russian Federation Republican Party [RFRP] said that they favored joining the bloc headed by Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, 20 organizations voted for the party's joining the "Russia's Choice" bloc, and three abstained. This means that at the federal level that party will join Yavlinskiy's bloc. But at the same time we decided that regional organizations may also side with the "Russia's Choice" bloc. So, on the whole, our party structures will help both blocs to collect signatures and to allocate candidates among one-mandate districts. At the same time, the RFRP congress unanimously decided on the party's withdrawal from the Democratic Russia movement.

[Katanyan] You should agree that the name "Yavlinskiy bloc" does not sound any better.

[Lysenko] As for the name, we will have an electoral bloc called "Delo" ("Business"). This name is maybe not political at all, but it reflects the most important thing Russia is lacking most.

[Katanyan] Wouldn't it be better to call the bloc, say, "Russia's Business?"

[Lysenko] The word "Russia," excuse me, is so worn out that we decided not to ape all the rest. I hope that our bloc will be distinguished by an unconventional way of thinking from the established blocs that presently exist.

[Katanyan] Gaydar's bloc is evidently your main rival?

[Lysenko] The other day, I reached agreement with Gaydar on close cooperation. So there will be no acute differences between us. We will struggle, above all, not to

let people from the communist and national-patriotic movements enter the parliament. Moreover, I suggested that the leaders of all the democratic blocs (members of "Russia's Choice", Borovoy, Popov, and Sobchak) get together in the near future and agree on joining efforts during the election campaign.

Sergey Filatov, Chief of the Russian Federation President's Administration

[Katanyan] What is your personal role in the election campaign?

[Filatov] To assist the "Russia's Choice" bloc.

[Katanyan] Will you run for the parliament yourself?

[Filatov] I am only considering this. I have not yet made a definite decision. As you understand, I am in a somewhat special position. Government members are allowed to become deputies, but the regulation does not say anything about officials from the presidential administration. Generally speaking, I have yet to think this over.

[Katanyan] Who do you think has the most realistic chances of competing with "Russia's Choice's" in the December elections?

[Filatov] A few competitors can already be mentioned. This is the Russian Democratic Reform Movement [RDRM], which brought together almost the entire interregional group from the former Union's Supreme Soviet. Yavlinskiy's bloc may also prove to be a tough opponent.

[Katanyan] What could you say about the bloc Mikhail Gorbachev is planning to set up?

[Filatov] I have just heard about this. I do not know how real this prospect is, but so far I do not see any realistic competition from this side.

Leaders of Local Electoral Commission Appointed

PM2110131393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Okrug Electoral Commissions Set Up"]

[Text] The latest Central Electoral Commission session has given an important boost, its chairman Nikolay Ryabov stressed, to the phase of preparing for the elections and the constitutional referendum—through the formation of okrug electoral commissions and the appointment of their leaders.

The names of the chairmen of okrug commissions in republics making up the Russian Federation, autonomous okrugs, the autonomous oblast, krays, and oblasts have already been announced.

The first person to receive the honor of being an okrug commission chairman is Ivan Yepimin in the Republic of Adygea. In all there will be 225 chairmen—the same as the number of okrugs.

Parties' Efforts To Raise Election Funding Viewed

PM2110131793 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Oct 93 (Signed to Press 19 Oct) p 4

[Report by Aleksandra Korostashevskaya of POST-FACTUM specially for NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA under the "Ruble Zone" rubric: "Taking Seats in Parliament According to Mandates Bought. How the Election Bloc Leaders Are Seeking Campaign Funds"]

[Text] The organizing committee of the Russia's Choice election association invited to their constituent congress, held last weekend, the leaders of a host of major financial associations. Representatives of the Promradtekhbank, the Menatep MFO [expansion unknown], the Alfa-Bank, the MOST group, and other corporations received the status of honored guests with voting rights.

The concealment of the sources of finance for election blocs in which the country's leading politicians were forced to engage prior to their final registration leads one to suppose that Russia's Choice had already assigned roles and places to financial structures in fulfillment of election promises even before the launch of the election campaign. The leaders of the remaining part of the political spectrum have now to attempt to gain the trust of voters, who are not indifferent as to whom their vouchers benefit.

Gavriil Popov, chairman of the Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms, has said that it will be necessary, closer to the elections, to organize a special collection of funds to support the movement's candidates in the State Duma elections.

Dreadful rumors are circulating about the "centrists with the track record"—the Civic Union, now represented by the All-Russia Renewal Union and the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs. In the All-Russia Renewal Union, for example, apparatus staff have not received wages in recent months, while the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs simply has no money for the future deputies' publicity campaign (apart from the agreed state funds).

The Democratic Party of Russia ("Travkin's party"), which calls itself the "true center," boldly tells journalists that the party's Election Campaign Fund, under the leadership of Vladimir Leytland, president of the Narkombank, intends to lend candidates on the party's list around 3 million rubles. That is roughly as much as the state has allocated to run the Central Electoral Commission.

Grigoriy Yavlinskiy (leader of the Economic and Political Research Center), who has placed himself in opposition to the Russia's Choice government bloc, is nevertheless holding talks with the MOST group (which received a mandate at the Russia's Choice congress) on support for his election campaign, and, according to sources close to him, very successfully so.

In addition to the Republican and Social Democratic Parties, Gleb Yakunin's Russian Christian Democratic Union (he himself is included on the list of the Russia's Choice bloc) forms part of the bloc formed by Yavlinskiy. Yakunin, if you are to believe information from Aleksandr Ogorodnikov and Aleksandr Chuyev, leaders of competing Christian Democratic organizations, could bring in considerable resources from the West. In the spring Ogorodnikov and Chuyev were saying that a number of leaders of the Russian Christian Democratic Union enjoy the support of Germany's Konrad Adenauer Fund.

The Party of Russian Unity and Accord under the leadership of Sergey Shakhray will clearly experience no financial difficulties in getting their candidates into parliament. They will basically be representatives of local organs of executive power. It is intended that representatives of local elites will themselves find local sources of money.

Our former people's deputies "bowed but unbroken" after the freezing of the communist parties' accounts will storm the State Duma and Federation Council by standing in the electoral districts. It only remains to wish them support from MMM-Invest, which published whole pages of advertising in PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, and DEN before the papers were closed down. And indeed Valeriy Neverov, leader of the Hermes Center, too, who has repeatedly criticized the government and president in opposition newspapers.

Extent of Ministers' Election Commitment Questioned

PM2110145793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 1

[Robert Minasov article: "Will Politics Not Eclipse Economics?"]

[Text] So, the process of forming election blocs in the runup to the 11-12 December parliamentary elections and the referendum on the constitution is under way, as the saying goes...

The organizational registration of the political forces which will be the president's and government's mainstay in the new parliament has taken place. The constituent congress of the Russia's Choice bloc and the constituent congress of the Russian Unity and Accord Party took place last Saturday and Sunday [16, 17 October]. Alas, unity and cohesion were not achieved. The latest split in the democratic movement has emerged. Its symptoms revealed themselves clearly at the congress of the Russia's Choice bloc, at which Democratic Russia leaders were unable to reserve themselves a single place in the list of candidates. Democratic Russia is accused of excessive radicalism and in this respect is being compared to the extreme left-wing National Salvation Front.

I will not dwell on the program statements and political declarations made from the platforms at the two forums; much has been said about this. More prosaic problems concern us.

I counted no fewer than 16 members of the presidential administration and government who have staked a claim to a candidate's niche in the State Duma. Very prominent figures in the top echelons have started the election race—Yegor Gaydar, Sergey Shakhray, Aleksandr Shokhin, Vladimir Shumeyko, Boris Fedorov, Andrey Kozyrev, Anatoliy Chubays... They will undoubtedly be joined by other, equally well-known personalities close to the power structures contesting seats in the State Duma for single-candidate territorial districts.

It is worth noting that the aforementioned include... six vice premiers, five of whom help to manage the economy. So a seditious thought crosses one's mind: Will they not be so distracted by election battles that there will be no time to carry out economic reform? And how, generally, do the elevated contenders for seats in the Federal Assembly intend to combine state and public activity? Because there have already been warnings about this from both the president and the prime minister.

And if we consider that the election epic will continue after 12 December, that is, until the presidential election which, in Boris Nikolayevich's version, will take place 12 June next year, won't the political campaigning prove too onerous for the government members?

Nor is it clear how equal opportunities for all participants in the election race will be ensured. What guarantee is there that such a factor as the perks of office will not come into play here? While some ordinary contender for a seat in the State Duma is hoofing it to the boondocks a vice premier or minister will be flying around cities and villages at the speed of a government jet airliner. Somehow I do not recall any guarantees about the impermissibility of this in the statute on elections.

Something else is also causing concern. The simultaneous holding of elections to the State Duma and the Federal Assembly's Federation Council and the referendum on the constitution will put the voters themselves in a difficult situation. After all, many of them will still have to make their choice from among the candidates for deputy in the regional representative organs. However, let us hope that all these difficulties will be overcome by both those being elected and those doing the electing.

On Tuesday [19 October] the Constitutional Conference Public Chamber resumed its activity. Anatoliy Sobchak, its coordinator, spoke for most of the participants when he said that the president's edict on ministers' combining their posts with their deputies' powers in the Federal Assembly had prompted an outburst of indignation. "Combining posts is an accepted practice in many countries of the world," Sobchak stressed. "But in Russia it is taking on ridiculous proportions. The entire government has suddenly rushed into an election race with each

other. And ministers," Sobchak went on, "have dispersed to various election blocs with programs which are exact opposites and which even oppose the government. They will all trade blows, and the government will be unable to work. It is now time for Viktor Chernomyrdin to bring his colleagues to their senses as quickly as possible or to select new ones."

Regions Preparing for Federal Assembly Elections

LD2110173393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1119 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 21 TASS—Preparations for the general elections to a Federal Assembly which will consist of a State Duma (lower chamber) and a Federation Council (upper chamber) are in full swing in Russia. Reaction to restructuring of local councils is very different.

St. Petersburg. The Federation of Independent Trade Unions in the city and the region as well as the Union of Associations of Industrial, Building, Scientific, Transport and Communications Enterprises formed an election bloc.

"The interests of managers and trade union leaders will be the same until a government capable of protecting the interests of goods manufacturers takes power," claims managing director of the Lenptitseprom amalgamation Yuriy Trusov.

Chelyabinsk. Most businessmen go in for politics more actively, said managing director of the Magnitogorsk iron and steel combine Anatoliy Starikov at a meeting of the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs in the Chelyabinsk region.

The union supported the nomination of First Vice-Premier Oleg Soskovets and First Deputy Finance Minister Aleksandr Pochinok for the State Duma.

Barnaul. The association of voters "Altay's Choice" which joined the political bloc "Russia's Choice", nominated Barnaul Mayor Vladimir Bavarin, Altay territory administration secretary Vladimir Ryzhkov, chief doctor of the territorial cardiological centre Anatoliy Starkov for the State Duma [sentence as received].

Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. An administrative head "can most efficiently use the status of legislator in the interests of Sakhalin and the Kurils", claimed Yevgeniy Krasnoyarov and decided to join the race for parliament.

Voronezh. The Russian president's representative Viktor Davydkin called on voters to support the bloc of reformist forces "Russia's Choice". It was decided to form "a round table" of reformers to coordinate the election campaign. The regional branch of the Russian Democratic Party nominated its candidates for the State Duma.

Orenburg. Bodies of executive power shouldered all the responsibility for the elections and the referendum in the region.

A working group was set up in compliance with a decision by the head of the regional administration to concert actions and assistance to district and precinct electoral commissions. Such groups headed by administrative executives are being formed in districts and cities.

Ulyanovsk. The Ulyanovsk Regional Council discontinued its operation at its special session on Thursday. The council's decision says that the Russian president's decree on reform of representative bodies of power and local self-rule "makes virtually impossible the implementation by the Regional Council of its functions which were defined by the Russian Constitution, the Federal Treaty and Russian laws".

Commentator Wants Voters To Reject Extremism

PM2210100593 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 1

[Vladimir Yermolin commentary: "We Should Be Certain That the Authorities We Elect Will Not Summon Us to the Barricades"]

[Text] As the election campaign "unfolds," the calls to weigh up the candidates' merits not according to their ostentatious promises of "manna from heaven," but according to their level of professionalism in their approach to resolving specific problems concerning the economy, social protection, legal guarantees for the reforms, and the preservation of our statehood and civil order, are becoming a commonplace. However, the reality of the situation is actually that in such mass campaigns as elections most often one side plays the soiled and generally reviled populist card while the other "picks it up." It would be naive to pin one's hopes on the possibility that all those who have rushed to find joy in the preelection skirmish will agree to declare a moratorium on the irresponsible promises, superficial schemes, and fabricated compromising materials against their political opponents. We, the voters, will inevitably be presented with "simple solutions" to try out and a series of recipes for our salvation which promise a speedy and painless cure for the economy. If only because telling the people the truth, and disabusing it of its last illusions (if anybody still has any) of a miraculous solution leading to the heights of prosperity, will simply seem stupid, a childish fantasy, and a tactical absurdity to some strategists in the election battle. You already hear people talking about "healthy cynicism" today, as something which is allegedly necessary in such a "dirty" business as this struggle for power. In this case for legislative power. They say, you will never do anything with clean hands here; the people will only laugh at you.

Certainly, everybody has the right to decide for himself what means he should use to achieve such a lofty goal as the mandate of the people's confidence. We, the voters, can only take comfort in the fact that we also have the right to assess our confidence in any candidate by applying our own criteria. We must not forget what is

most important; all of us have already sat one examination in democracy and received...an unsatisfactory grade in it. After all it was us, and nobody else, who elected the Russian corps of deputies when called to vote in 1990. I would not in any way consider all deputies (who have now lost their mandates) as people who are, let us say, self-interested and absolute prisoners of their political ambitions. Many of them defended in a completely sincere manner that reform path for Russia which they considered to be the only correct one. But this is not the point, you see many of them came to their positions as deputies with programs which promised anything at all bar a social conflict bordering on civil war. However, in the final analysis we all got what we got—a shrieking mixture of extremists both from the left and the right wing of the Russian parliament. And what was most terrible—bloody October.

I do not know how people will decide which deputy, party, and movement to adopt as their own. For me personally, the first sign of ill health in a candidate or his party is the presence of this very extremism that recognizes political struggle only as a means of destruction, and regards parliamentary seats as pillboxes from which it is convenient to pick off their political opponents and settle scores with an opposition which is unwilling to capitulate. After all it was actually a revolutionary feeling of impatience, which had been taking hold of a large number of deputies since as far back as 1991, and led to the situation where people began to take their places either side of the barricades, which, alas, were not imaginary, and the arms they bore were certainly not symbolic. It is perhaps the Army which, of all the state institutions today, is the force which is most interested in extremism of any hue being prevented from getting inside the walls of the Federal Assembly. After all, events have repeatedly demonstrated, and have just done so again, that it is the Army which always pays for the irreconcilable parties' "lack of principles." There is also the people. Both those who allowed themselves to get dragged into the fray, and those who figured on waiting out the troubled days on the sidelines.

I would very much like to believe that the Russian voter will now reject the crazies of various hues. It seems that people in the election blocs and parties which are being formed understand this well. It is no accident that the names of former deputies known for their frenzied and aggressive polemicizing in the forums of the congress and parliament, have already been removed from the lists of candidates, being squeezed out by the names of professionals who are capable of constructive work. Which, for example, was observed when the list of candidates was put together at the founding congress of the "Russia's Choice" bloc. Those forces which are politically diametrically opposed to the democratic, pro-presidential movements should be guided by the same principle, if only out of a feeling of self-preservation. These people, who took some pains to ensure that bloody October occurred in Russia, should spare the country their attentions since it has already been worn down enough. We, the voters, ought to show the red light to those who have do not have the strength to decide on that step on their own. Otherwise, we are all doomed to see the worst repeated. Except that the next bout of political extremism will lead to even greater loss of life if not to an all-out civil war.

I hope that it is not necessary to explain that we are not talking about unprincipled political collaborationism. A multiparty system, meaning a choice in the way the Russian state develops, is a budding reality. The presence of an opposition to the government is a feature of a normal and healthy society, which is keeping in mind what absolute power leads to. There is one small element lacking in this matter—the actual shape a civilized opposition takes. In this respect, we can only hope for one thing—that the election campaign, which has started out in a problematic atmosphere of social tension, does not become a further irritant to society, or a dangerous instrument of its polarization. It is clear that much will depend on the powers that be—in these circumstances the smallest distortion in favor of one side, where the law stipulates mandatory equality, the least sign of "official" exclusion of undesirable candidates from the struggle, will set in motion a wave discrediting the very idea of the elections and the idea of creating an independent parliament. Then it will be those who prefer the grenade launcher to all forms of argument in a dispute who will be rejoicing.

Let it nevertheless be the people themselves who are the only force to determine the result of the polling on 12 December. I would like to believe that all of us who lived through the nightmare and shame of the tragic events in September and October will not err in our choice.

Military Issues

General Interviewed on White House Siege

PM2010140593 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 Oct 93 p 2

[Interview with Lieutenant General Leonid Ivashov by Igor Chernyak under "Black October: Facts and Fabrications" rubric; place and date not given: "When the Smoke Over the 'White House' Cleared"]

[Text] After the Moscow events of 3-4 October, military chiefs of all ranks, who had not been noted for their loquacity even before that, entirely cut themselves off from journalists, hiding behind adjutants and aides, and fell totally silent. (Probably the only exception was the minister of defense, who twice agreed to meet with the Russian press during the first days after the victory, as well as General Lebed in Tiraspol). Among the other generals, including those who participated directly in the storming of the "White House," none are to be observed who wish not only to report some details of the preparations for the operation and the storming itself but even simply to share their opinion of what happened. Meanwhile, accusations against the Army are increasing.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA managed, not without difficulty, to interview Lieutenant Gen. Leonid Ivashov, an active military chief but one who does not at present hold an official post in the Russian Ministry of Defense. Ivashov asked us to emphasize that what he said is the personal viewpoint of a general, a citizen of the Russian Federation.

[Chernyak] I heard it said recently that the young Russian Army received its baptism of fire in a battle against its own compatriots. Now that the smoke over the "White House" has cleared, what do you personally think about this?

[Ivashov] The power structures really did find themselves at the epicenter of political events, and it was essentially they who put a bloody end to the "White House."

In my view, this attests that no serious movement has been made along the path toward democracy over the past two years, even rather the opposite. In the events of August 1991 matters did not go as far as an orgy of blood.

What is happening now? The country's leadership employs armed force as a weighty argument in the political dispute. It was no coincidence that, before dissolving parliament, the president enlisted the support of the power structures. Parliamentarians in turn also reached for assault rifles and, in the search for ways out of the situation, gave priority to military ways—expressing a thirst for revenge.

Another aspect of this drama consists in the fact that the power structures, which are called upon to act only within the framework of the law and in the name of the entire state and the entire people, were forced to stand on one side of the barricades or the other. Moreover, they were forced independently to make decisions for the politicians.

Today there is no clear answer to the question of who was responsible for the following decisions: on approval for the plan to storm the "White House," on the methods for carrying it out, or on the means employed to do so.

See what a strange scheme is apparent: During the night of 3-4 October the president was attending a conference (or, as certain mass media report, a session of the Security Council), for some reason the session was chaired by the prime minister, but the decision on the culminating act—the storming—was adopted by the power ministries.

I would like to make a third point. Not only the country's leaders but also a considerable section of society are sick with the syndrome of armed struggle and strong-arm methods. Let us recall the Democratic Russia supporters' appeals after the events of August 1991 with regard to communists and sympathizers with the SCSE [State Committee for the State of Emergency]. What did they get in reply? The quite strong movements of Anpilov, Barkashov, Terekhov, and others.

Today similar appeals are being made once again. I recently encountered in a Moscow newspaper an allusion to the desirability of expelling all "Rutskoyites and Khasbulatovites" from Russia. Yet these make up approximately one-third of the population!

Until we abandon attempts to use force as an argument in the political dispute, Russia will continue to teeter on the brink of civil war.

We must not pretend that, following the rout of the "White House," only like-minded people are left in Russia. Everyone cannot be forced to think the way Mr. Yerin, for example, thinks. This is very dangerous. It seems to me that it is necessary to understand people, why some are "for" and others "against" the present policy, and to show them just what the president and his team want and what awaits the population of Russia in the foreseeable future. For a considerable proportion of Russians today simply do not understand where they are being led.

This also concerns the army. People in uniform have chosen as their profession the defense of the motherland, not of a particular branch of power. Instead of this, they are compelled to harvest potatoes, to secure their own sustenance, and, finally, to love some people and hate others, to kill some people and defend others. The army must swear to love Russia, the constitution, and the law and to hate the aggressor who has encroached upon the fatherland's sovereignty and independence.

[Chernyak] According to information we have received, the commander of an illustrious division led a column toward the "White House" virtually at the point of a pistol held by a deputy defense minister. Another commander was essentially debarred from controlling the military subunits which were operating in Moscow, and orders relating to combat operations bypassed him and went directly to his subordinates—something that is unprecedented. There are other facts attesting that many servicemen were cautious or even opposed the carrying out of orders. On the other hand, reports have appeared in the press that certain generals and admirals almost pressured the president into agreeing to a compromise with the "White House" and not bringing troops into Moscow. Is this compatible with military service and the principle "the chief's order is law for subordinates"? For the president, apart from everything else, is also the supreme commander in chief....

[Ivashov] Thank God that there are servicemen who think before they shoot. Particularly at old people, women, and children, even if gunmen are using them as cover. Let us turn to historical experience and our history. Unfortunately, there have been many similar instances: first pogroms and executions, then victory and heroic communiques, and those involved were promoted and recommended for awards. But the subsequent

course of history led to their being cursed. I do not rule out the possibility that this will be the case this time too.

In addition, after the Tbilisi events, Vilnius, and the SCSE in 1991, demands were issued for proceedings to be instituted against servicemen who carry out criminal orders. Such a norm was even included in the draft military regulations. The main military law—on defense—states that the Russian Federation Armed Forces are designed to repulse aggression and inflict defeat on an aggressor and also to carry out tasks in accordance with Russia's international commitments. Their use to resolve other tasks is permitted only on the basis of law or in accordance with a Supreme Soviet decree. Whether this is good or bad, this is the current law, and this is why certain military chiefs were cautious. It is immoral to rebuke them for this and still more so to give them short shrift. If this happens, there might be no thinking generals left in the army—there will be just unthinking, zealous doers, who will not give a damn about whom they shoot and on whose orders. Without a military intellect the Army will perish or be turned into a gendarme structure.

[Chernyak] In your opinion, even after the pogroms perpetrated 3 October, were there any other ways out of the crisis?

[Ivashov] Specific people called for pogroms, and specific people carried out actions to capture the City Hall and the television center. They, and they alone, must be held responsible. Why sentence to death people who, simply because of their convictions, found themselves unarmed in the "White House", while others merely came to work and ended up in the position of hostages? This inhuman and unlawful sentence on these people was carried out with the help of tanks and other kinds of heavy weapons.

According to eyewitness accounts, the use of antitank shaped-charge shells caused insignificant damage to the building, while causing the brains of people in the building to spill out. The walls of those rooms were spattered with human gray matter.

As regards ways out of such a crisis, mankind has worked out thousands of them in the course of its history. An assault, still less one associated with mass killings and bloodshed, is far from the best way out, rather the last one.

[Chernyak] Do you agree with Gen. Lebed, who has called what happened in Moscow a "great crime"?

[Ivashov] Maybe it is not quite correct to consider the Army's actions criminal. Rather, this is on the conscience of those who drew the Army into these events.

[Chernyak] But, after what happened, the thought is being insistently expressed in official and public circles that precisely the assault averted civil war in Russia....

[Ivashov] These are, rather, attempts to justify the tragedy. In this way it would also be possible to account for the use of nuclear weapons against the "White House." The thing is obviously that the political intriguers involved in the standoff had worked themselves up into a frenzy and did not wish to hear of any compromises. Any attempt by a representative of one camp to yield to the other in some way was perceived as a betrayal. Let us recall the instances with Ryabov, Skokov, and others. The sides had forgotten how to listen to each other and constantly sought refined methods for revenge. The events of 3-4 October constituted that fanatical revenge.

Plans are now afoot to create a strong reinforced area around the television center. This will hardly solve the problem....

[Chernyak] The final question. Moscow is being swept by rumors of alleged mass killings in the "White House" even after the putsch had been crushed. The authorities are keeping quiet about the numbers killed and the burial places. What do you think about this?

[Ivashov] It is evidently too soon to speak of the objectivity of the growing quantity of eyewitness testimonies to the numbers of dead. A competent representative commission is needed to investigate all the circumstances of these events. Our citizens died, and they must all be named. This is the duty of the living. In this situation it would be blasphemous not to identify all who died.

I emphasize once again, so as to prevent rumors from spreading, that what is needed is an objective investigation involving all the interested sides. Then will come the verdict of history.

Failed Army Union Chief on Soldiers' Plight

PM2110085193 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 2

[Interview with Andrey Goptar, former cochairman of the organizational committee to set up the Independent Trade Union of Military Servicemen, by Anatoliy Mikhaylov; place and date not given: "A Military Trade Union? You Must Be Joking"]

[Text] From the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA dossier: Andrey Yevgenyevich Goptar was born in Feodosiya in 1964. After graduating from the Kiev Naval Higher Political School, he served in the Northern Fleet. He was discharged from the Armed Forces in 1992 at his own request.

In October 1991 he became cochairman of the organizational committee to set up the Independent Trade Union of Military Servicemen (ITUMS). He left the ITUMS in July 1993.

I have known Andrey Yevgenyevich ever since he became involved in organizing the military trade union. Then, in the fall of 1991, he was really enthusiastic about the idea and was prepared to spend hours trying to persuade people of the need to set up the ITUMS. Initially, things really started moving. The "powers that

be" gave the "green light" to the idea and Andrey became chairman of the ITUMS Presidium. He had quite a few supporters. But suddenly it became a complete fiasco. Naturally, my conversation with Andrey Goptar began with my asking about the reasons for the failure.

[Goptar] There are several reasons. The main one is that the law does not currently provide for trade unions for military servicemen in the Army. In 1991 we had reason to hope that a clause on military trade unions could be incorporated in the Law "On the Status of Military Servicemen" being drawn up at the time. But the idea, borne along by the wave of democracy, gradually began to lose its supporters. Notably among the Defense Ministry leadership. Indeed, the very idea of military trade unions proved to be premature, which is why it failed to find mass support among servicemen. Most officers and warrant officers asked: "But what will your organization give me?" It goes without saying that a social organization, including a trade union, cannot provide servicemen with apartments, plots of land, and much more. But that is precisely what people want....

Moreover, a military trade union cannot have the normal "mechanisms" for protecting the rights of its members, such as going on strike, organizing pickets, and putting demands to the command. This also prevents it from being a real protective force. That is why, throughout its existence, ITUMS has acted not as a trade union but as a center for the social adaptation of servicemen.

[Mikhaylov] But there must be subjective as well as objective reasons. I have heard, for example, that some of the military trade union's leaders are primarily concerned with finding a cosy niche for themselves....

[Goptar] Unfortunately, most people in the trade union leadership have proved to have a "vested interest," shall we say. They have "shown concern" for themselves, rather than for the trade union members, at the very first opportunity. There are many examples, but I do not wish to expand on the subject. There are people, however, who first wormed their way into our confidence and then gave preference, so to speak, to more "down-to-earth" interests over the general idea. Mikhail Kolchev, Vladimir Popov....

In short, analysis of all these reasons and facts led me to the final decision to leave the trade union and call for it to dissolve itself.

[Mikhaylov] These are your own personal assessments. How have the other trade union "bosses" reacted to your statement and to your proposal that the organization dissolve?

[Goptar] Unfortunately, my assessment of the situation in the trade union does not coincide with the opinion of the so-called "group of four," which only speaks on behalf of one-fifth of active officers and 50 reserve officers in the ITUMS. Although these people have provided for themselves materially, their appetite constantly grows. Now they are saying: "What more does Goptar need? We were doing all right for ourselves...." To be perfectly frank, however, they have discredited both themselves and the idea of an independent military trade union with their prosperity.

[Mikhaylov] Let us leave the subject of discord in the military trade union for a moment. I think it is far more important right now to talk about servicemen's social and legal problems. After all, you studied them for almost two years.

[Goptar] My opinion is perfectly clear. First, no social organization has the power to resolve the military's numerous social and legal problems. That is the first illusion I shed. Those organizations which are at least doing something for the military either receive state support or are actively engaged in commerce. There is no third way. Hence the conclusion that, realistically, only the state can create the system and mechanism to resolve servicemen's social and legal problems. And no one does more than the Defense Ministry itself in this respect, of course.

Second, I think there has been enough talk about the military's social and legal problems: It is time to get down to tackling them. Look how many sittings, meetings, conferences, and collegium sessions have been held on the subject. They all discuss the whys and wherefores. In my opinion, there should be less talk and tougher demands made on those officials responsible for dealing with servicemen's social and legal problems.

All in all, there should be just one executive body at federal level responsible for this problem. Look how many different organizations are now active in the field of protecting the military's interests: the Interdepartmental Commission for the Social Problems of Military Servicemen and Members of Their Families, which consists of 33 high-ranking officials from 27 ministries and departments; the Ministry of Social Protection's Main Administration for the Provision of Organizational and Technical Backing to the Interdepartmental Commission (which is staffed by more than 80 people); the government sector for the social protection of military servicemen and their families; and so forth. In the end, no one is responsible!

Meanwhile, so much money is spent on maintaining all these structures—enough to build a lot of homes.... For example, the rent alone for the premises of the Main Administration for the Provision of Organizational and Technical Backing to the Interdepartmental Commission (headed by Aleksandr Tsalko) has amounted to almost 54 million rubles this year. Tsalko himself has four rooms (office, rest room, reception area, and assistant's office). Even some ministers do not have offices like that.

[Mikhaylov] Nevertheless, Andrey Yevgenyevich, what, in your view, can servicemen and their families expect? When might there be real progress in solving their problems?

[Goptar] I think that servicemen must be patient: We cannot solve every problem at once, particularly in such an unstable situation. This must be frankly said.

I know some officers, warrant officers, and ensigns think they are now worse off than everyone else. But that is not so. It is very difficult for everyone at the moment.

Shaposhnikov Asks To Resign From Army

MK2010114193 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 20 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Shaposhnikov Is Leaving the Army for Good"]

[Text] Air Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, former USSR defense minister and former commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, has submitted his resignation.

During the October events, Shaposhnikov offered his help to Yeltsin as an adviser on military matters. The president, however, did not use his services. Several days later the marshal submitted a request to Supreme Commander in Chief B. Yeltsin to discharge him from the Armed Forces. The request is now under consideration.

Autumn Army Draft Begins in Sakhalin

OW2110140793 Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk Teleradiokompaniya Sakhalin Television Network in Russian 2010 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Interview with Colonel Petr Filipovich Agel, Sakhalin Oblast military commissar, by Avitiy Sagreyev; place and date not given—from the "As of This Hour" program]

[Text] Drafting for the Russian Army started in town and rayon enlistment offices. Our correspondent Avitiy Sagreyev talks to Petr Agel, the oblast military commissar.

[Begin recording] [Sagreyev] Time flies, Petr Filipovich. Only recently we have talked about the spring drafting of youths; time went by, and you are already dealing with the autumn draft. I would like to know if there is anything new about the autumn draft.

[Agel] Yes, I do agree with you; time flies, unfortunately. The autumn draft has practically started, and draft boards have already started working in the rayon and town enlistment offices. Medical examinations of draft-age youths are being conducted. The autumn draft will be conducted, and is being conducted in accordance with the Russian president's Edict No. 1367 from 13 September. Based on this edict, Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Council of Ministers, issued a decree. This is the basis for our conducting the spring draft.

[Sagreyev] How many do you plan to draft? Do you have such a plan, or can you approximate? How many new recruits do you plan to draft for service in the Russian Army?

[Agel] The Sakhalin Oblast used to send more than 4,000 youths out of the oblast every year. Unfortunately, we send less nowadays. The quality of the draftee contingent is dropping. Taking into consideration the experience of last year's autumn draft, we will probably be drafting about 2,000 recruits.

[Sagreyev] I know that there was a decree by the Russian Supreme Soviet on the drafting of students of vocational and technical colleges for regular service. Well, there is no more Supreme Soviet, so what does the president say?

[Agel] Indeed. An edict by the Russian president on drafting citizens of the Russian Federation who have reached the draft age and study during the daytime at mid-level educational facilities has been issued. In other words, it includes vocational and technical schools and their equivalents. This is one angle of it. In other words, the deferment granted in accordance with the law on military duty and military service—paragraph B of the second part of Article 21—has been suspended. We will also draft reserve officers under 28 years of age for military service.

[Sagreyev] Which branch of service?

[Agel] In practice, all the branches of service. Those who did not serve but have an officer's rank, who have graduated from a higher education facility... [pauses] There is a presidential decree on this also; this question is being studied. A session of the mandate commission will be held in a week, probably on 18 October, to confirm draft lists of reserve officers under 28, or even 30, who have not served.

[Sagreyev] You are facing a major and complex task this autumn, but I think that it is very important, and I wish you success today more that at any other time.

[Agel] Thank you. [end recording]

Economic Issues

Gaydar Cited on 'Unpopular' Economic Measures

LD2110192293 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 21 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] It is only now that dual power has been eliminated that the Russian Government has gained the chance to implement economic reform in normal conditions. This was stated by Yegor Gaydar at a meeting with journalists today. And so there is now a new timetable for Russian reform.

[Correspondent S. Milyanchikov] Today's meeting between first Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar and

journalists looks likely to become a regular event. The government presidium member and leader of the Russia's Choice movement talked about the bloc's election campaign and the economic situation in Russia.

In Yegor Gaydar's view, there is nothing wrong with the fact that members of the government have become engaged in preparations for the elections—all the more so because the economic programs of the Russia's Choice bloc and the government are similar in many respects, as they were drawn up by almost all the same people.

As far as the economy is concerned, Yegor Gaydar has talked on several occasions recently about unpopular measures. He listed them at our request, to avoid rumors of upcoming price rises, wage freezes, and other disasters for the people of Russia.

[Begin Gaydar recording] To eliminate interest rate concessions, grain prices have been unfrozen. From 1 November the range of subsidized imported goods is being sharply reduced; in effect, only medicines are being maintained. [end recording]

[Milyanchikov] He also reported something that has not yet appeared in the press. After 4 October, the Central Bank of Russia was compelled to release a large amount of rubles onto the international currency exchange to prevent a collapse in the dollar exchange rate. In his view, this shows that the economy is beginning to work normally. [video shows Gaydar seated at a table talking to journalists]

Gaydar on Agro-Industrial Sector

LD2110223093 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 21 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Today's meeting of the presidium of the Russian Federation Government was mainly devoted to the rehabilitation of areas of Altay Kray that suffered from the tests at the Semipalatinsk test site. The program, which extends to the year 2000, envisages the implementation of a complex of medical and sociopsychological work to rehabilitate the affected population.

During the discussion, the nerves of Russian Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Zaveryukha, as he put it himself later, gave out. His family suffered from the nuclear tests in Semipalatinsk, and he can see for himself that in Altay Kray nothing has yet been done for ordinary people.

He compared this situation with the government's attitude to agriculture—much is said about the need to pay attention to the agrarian sector but practically nothing gets done. Intolerable working conditions have been created for agricultural producers and they are owed 7 billion rubles. He therefore walked out of the government meeting without thought for his future.

Speaking at a news conference this evening, Yegor Gaydar would not comment on Aleksandr Zaveryukha's remarks, but he commented on the situation which has arisen in our agro-industrial sector. [video shows Gaydar at news conference]

[Begin Gaydar recording] There are manifestly differing positions within the government about the development of the agrarian complex. There are objective problems in this complex. In my view they have been caused to a large extent by serious miscalculations and mistakes in the agrarian policy which were committed in 1993. Today we are garnering the fruits of these serious miscalculations which, in my view, have been committed in this work.

Of course, many people want to find someone to blame, to find out who, precisely, are the miscreants who now cannot find the money to pay for what was done incorrectly. And, by the way, the worst thing is that those who are most to blame are those who want our peasantry and our agriculture to flourish. [end recording]

Zaveryukha: No Alternative to Agrarian Reform

LD2110201393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1743 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] There is no alternative to the measures envisioned by the draft presidential decree 'On the Regulation of Land Relations and the Development of Agrarian Reform in Russia,' boiling down to, free trade of land, Vice Prime Minister Aleksandr Zaveryukha told Interfax today.

At the same time, he did not rule out that the draft decree, to be signed by Boris Yeltsin in the near future, might be unwelcome by some peasants who are concerned over possible mass speculation of land plots.

However, the vice prime minister responsible for agrarian issues pointed out that the draft decree provides certain limitations. In particular, it would be possible to use arable lands for other purposes only if given permission by local executive bodies. This will help to prevent uncontrolled speculation of land.

The draft decree allows free sale, purchase and rent of land plots regardless of the date when they were acquired and lifted the moratorium on free trade of lands for agricultural purposes. Prior to this, "The principles of land legislation" passed by the parliament in July 1993 permitted only free trade of dachas and personal plots.

The current Russian legislation envisions a 10-year moratorium on sale of land plots received gratis and a 5-year one for those purchased from the state.

Russia's land covers an area of 1709.6 million hectares, including 620.3 million hectares belonging to agricultural enterprises and citizens. Land used for agricultural purposes occupy 222.3 million hectares in Russia.

Presently, over 11 million hectares of arable land belong to farmers, while over 7.4 million to agricultural cooperatives. Private plots of rural residents total over 6 million hectares, while 2.1 million hectares are used by urbanites.

Finance Minister Fedorov on Ruble Zone

LD2110192493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1743 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Formation of a new-type of ruble zone does not mean the immediate merger of the monetary systems of the countries forming the zone, said Russian Finance Minister Boris Fedorov.

According to a press release issued by the Russian Finance Ministry on Thursday, membership in the future ruble zone does not mean unilateral benefits for any of the states, automatic granting of credits or unlimited provision of cash. It means respect for each other's interests and mutual responsibility.

Fedorov believes membership in the ruble zone does not mean that the countries forming it cannot have their own currencies. Moreover, under the ruble-zone agreements, such countries may set stable exchange rates for their currencies against the Russian ruble, thus providing the basis for an efficient ruble zone.

Introduction by ruble-zone states of their own currencies with stable exchange rates is an essential condition for the normal development of trade and economic integration, for it would eliminate today's uncertainty in mutual payments, Fedorov believes.

Regional Affairs

Commandant Briefs Press on End of Moscow Emergency

PM2110092593 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Oct 93 p 3

[Boris Soldatenko report: "General Kulikov's 'Battle of Kulikovo'—Or What the Curfew in the Capital Will Be Remembered for by Russians"]

[Text] At 1600 hours Monday [18 October], in line with the edict of the Russian Federation president, the state of emergency ruling came to an end in Moscow. The very next day, the capital's commandant held a press conference for journalists on its results.

As Militia General Colonel Aleksandr Kulikov, Russia's deputy internal affairs minister and now the capital's former commandant, told KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, the main result of introducing a state of emergency ruling in the capital was the absence of any kind of terrorist act. The general crime rate [kriminalnyy fon] was noticeably reduced during the curfew period. In line with a special plan approved by the capital's commandant, additional help was brought in to safeguard the state of emergency ruling in the form of special purpose militia detachments, patrol and checkpoint service subunits from the Internal Affairs Ministry [MVD] and the Internal Affairs Administration [UVD], and trainees from higher and secondary Russian Federation MVD training establishments. Again, additional reserves with armored hardware drawn from among Russian Federation MVD Internal Troops servicemen were placed at the disposal of 10 commandant districts.

As regards the number of militia staffers involved in patrol service on a daily basis, General Kulikov communicated the following figures: Russian Federation MVD cadets—1,000; OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] staffers from all regions of the country—3,000; Internal Troops servicemen—1,000; and virtually the entire Moscow militia service. As for Russian Army servicemen, the general pointed out that efforts were made not to involve them at all, and that immediately after the curfew was lifted Monday they were withdrawn from the capital.

During the state of emergency ruling, 29 screening points [filtratsionnyye punkty] were in operation in the capital to which Russian citizens and foreigners, discovered by militia staffers without documents authorizing them to be in the capital, were conveyed. As a result, 9,779 people were expelled from Moscow.

It was interesting to discover that, in the period from 3 through 16 October, 26 criminal groupings were rendered harmless by staffers of law-enforcement organs, and that 125 firearms, 137 items of edged weapons, 29 explosive devices, around 5,000 rounds of ammunition, and over 41 kg of narcotic substances were confiscated.

As for information circulated on alleged instances of the execution—by shooting—of defenders of the White House, General Kulikov said that it is not based on hard facts. And as for those killed in the vicinity of City Hall and the former Russian Federation Supreme Soviet building, here, as the deputy minister announced, it was a conventional operation to neutralize armed gangs that was going on. Information regarding alleged preparations for an attack on Boris Yeltsin by Barkashov's gunmen also turned out to be false.

The general also noted that no infringements of the rights and freedoms of Russian citizens or foreigners had been committed by law enforcement organs. Only offenders were subjected to arrest and expulsion. Moreover, for the first two days of the state of emergency, MVD staffers did not even arrest citizens who did not have the right to be in Moscow, giving them a chance to leave the capital of their own free will.

As for appeals by the capital's inhabitants to the mayor and the leadership of Internal Affairs Main Administration requesting that the curfew in Moscow be extended, General Kulikov declared that this will not be done without the corresponding edict from the Russian president. But, order in the capital will be maintained by subunits of the capital's militia.

Reports Back to Government

PM2110151993 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 2

[Igor Petrov report under "In the Government" rubric: "After the Curfew"]

[Text] Some results of life in the capital under the state of emergency regime were summed up Tuesday [19 October] at a session of the Council of Ministers Commission on Urgent Questions. Colonel General Aleksandr Kulikov, Moscow commandant, reported to government told members on the matter.

According to him, all the necessary decisions on ensuring the state of emergency regime had already been adopted by 0600 hours on 5 October. The basic task of preventing unlawful actions in the Russian capital was fulfilled. All enterprises and organizations required to ensure the normal pulse of life in the capital worked without interruption. The militia placed more than 80,000 economic installations under its control during this time.

Transport and passengers were checked at 94 checkpoints on the main routes and at airports and stations. Every day 17,000 MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] employees, internal troops, and special-purpose militia detachment members ensured order and calm in the city.

Operation "Signal Ring," conducted jointly by all the capital's power structures, made it possible to detain 1,396 criminals, single out 59 organized criminal groups, and confiscate 1,263 firearms, not counting those discovered in the "White House."

A. Kulikov pointed out that crime in the capital was reduced practically to zero while the state of emergency and curfew were in force. Those who would not stay home while the curfew was in force—according to revised figures there were 36,000 such people—were detained. Precisely 9,579 people were expelled from Moscow for violations of the residence regulations. Although the state of emergency and the curfew have been ended, the militia will continue to exercise control on the beltway for the purpose of detecting weapons.

In the opinion of the capital's commandant, the forces of law and order could have worked still more efficiently if their activity had been governed more fully by legislation. Draft legislation now been drawn up and receiving expert appraisal by legal experts at the suggestion of the Ministry of Security and the MVD is designed to fill this gap.

Regional Parliaments' Plight After Yeltsin Decree

Samara Oblast Soviet To Dissolve

LD2110122593 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] The administration of Samara oblast has adopted a decision to dissolve the oblast soviet, ITAR-TASS reports. The administration's resolution states that the oblast soviet's constant failure to achieve a quorum has rendered it incapable of fulfilling its functions. In addition, its deputies opposed the Russian president's decree on stage-by-stage constitutional reform and refused to carry out the decisions of the federal organs of power. The oblast's administration will fulfill the functions of the oblast soviet until new representative bodies are elected.

Tatarstan 'In No Hurry' for Reforms

PM2110083593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Boris Bronshteyn report: "Tatarstan's Parliament Not in a Hurry To Support Republic's President"]

[Text] In response to the proposal made by President Mintimer Shaymiyev of Tatarstan to urgently reform the soviet system, a discussion developed in the republic's parliament during which those who were opposed clearly came to the forefront.

Their reasoning most often boiled down to the fact that a stable situation prevails in the republic, there is no confrontation between the branches of power, parliament has played an important role in establishing sovereignty, and the Supreme Soviet of Tatarstan should not be dissolved to suit Moscow. No doubt the pickets from national and communist organizations posted outside the Supreme Soviet building lent resoluteness to the president's opponents.

Rostov Soviet Fails To Agree on Future

PM2110135993 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Oct 93 p 3

[Anatoliy Borovkov report: "Rostov-na-Donu: Agreement Postponed. People Living on the Don Could Not Remain Indifferent to Promulgation of Russian Federation President's Edict"]

[Text] The inner soviet, which discussed the current situation practically everyday and understood full well that the wave of popular rejection of the power struggle at the top could sweep away all obstacles in its path, did everything it could to prevent the situation in the city and oblast from becoming tense. It must be emphasized that the ordinary working people made no attempt to inflame the situation throughout those days. They have a clearer idea of how all this might have ended. So the enterprises and organizations continued to work and there were no disruptions in either the commercial sector or the transport system. Units and subunits of the North Caucasus Military District remained completely calm. Which could not be said of the corps of people's deputies.

At a 12 October emergency session of the Rostov City Soviet the deputies, having refused to disband, adopted a decision to continue working until elections are held for new organs of representative power. However, not all of them agreed with this view. Five of the 127 people's deputies submitted petitions on relinquishing their

powers early. The extraordinary session of the oblast soviet had succeeded in raising a quorum, but a decision to disband was simply not adopted. What is more, the deputies' speeches were so polarized in terms of principles that there could be no question of any kind of accord. The only thing that they got as far as agreeing on was to postpone a final decision until 20 October. Well, let's wait and see. For the moment the activities of eight rayon soviets of people's deputies in the city of Rostov-na-Donu have been halted. The rayon administrations have taken over their property and the soviets' accounts have been closed.

Sakhalin To Review Decision on Edict

OW2210010293 Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk Teleradiokompaniya Sakhalin Television Network in Russian 2005 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Interview with Anatoliy Petrovich Aksenov, chairman of the Sakhalin Oblast Soviet, by correspondent S. Brusentsova; place and date not given; from the "As of This Hour" newscast—recorded]

[Text] The Information Service reports that the Small Soviet of the Oblast Soviet held a meeting today. If previously the agenda was taken up by questions concerning the oblast's daily affairs, today it should be thinking about itself and its place in life. [video cuts to show correspondent S. Brusentsova interviewing Anatoliy Petrovich Aksenov, chairman of the Sakhalin Oblast Soviet]

[Brusentsova] An extraordinary session of the Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies is scheduled for tomorrow at 1400. For this reason, we have come to visit Anatoliy Petrovich Aksenov, chairman of the Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies. What is on the agenda, and what is the reason for the extraordinary session? What are its tasks?

[Aksenov] Well, the people of the oblast already know about the decision of the previous extraordinary 12th session which was brought about by Presidential edict No. 1400. In the first point of its decision, the session voted by a majority of votes to consider the president's edict unconstitutional, as the Constitutional Court had decided at the time, and not to implement it in the oblast.

Subsequently, we were presented with the administration head's protest concerning this point and ultimately, on Sunday 9 October—rather 10 October, we met on 9 and 10 October—the Small Soviet adopted a decision to repeal this point. The second question which is of great concern to us, and I think the population, too, today is the holding of early elections, not only at the level of our higher organs of power but at the oblast, kray, and local soviet levels as well.

In connection with this, a situation has arisen which has been interpreted differently by lawyers and specialists in this field: Did the Small Soviet have the right to review such issues and to assess the decision adopted by a session of the organ which formed it? In connection with this, we have received an official notification from the administration head proposing that, in view of this situation, a session be convened and the position on these issues clarified. That is why the session is being convened.

The Small Soviet session decided and I personally signed an instruction on convening the session on 15 October at 1400. There will be two questions on the agenda: first, to adopt a final position on the president's Decree No. 1400. Naturally it was fulfilled and is being implemented in the oblast today. And second, to determine our position on the Soviet's future.

Magadan Soviet Rejects Self-Dissolution

OW2210020993 Magadan Radio Magadan in Russian 0800 GMT 20 Oct 93

[From the "Oblast News" program]

[Text] The Magadan City Soviet session finished its work today. The people's deputies declined the city administration's appeal for self-dissolution, although they supported the Russian president's edict directed at reform of the local self-government bodies in the Russian Federation.

Gaydar Tops Election Poll in St. Petersburg, Moscow

MK2110114593 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 3

[Oleg Savelyev report]

[Text] The Moscow branch of the All-Russia Center for the Study of Public Opinion conducted a snap poll last weekend of residents in both capitals. Answering the questions: "Are you going to participate in the December elections for a new parliament? Whom will you prefer in these elections?," 23 percent of those polled in St. Petersburg and 20 percent in Moscow said they are not going to vote; the answers of the others (in percentages) are as follows:

	St. Petersburg	Moscow
Gaydar (Russia's Choice)	24	28
Popov (Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms)	11	4
Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev	19	11
Travkin (Democratic Party of Russia)	4	4
Communists	7	3
National Salvation Front	3	3
None of them	9	10
Others	2	3
Hard to say	21	34

Nizhniy Novgorod Election Arrangements Taking Shape

PM2110150993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Andrey Shishov report under the general heading "Diverse Positions": "Equal Opportunities for All Candidates"]

[Text] Nizhniy Novgorod—The first people in Nizhniy Novgorod Oblast to name their candidates for the State Duma have been the Nizhniy Novgorod branch of the Republican and Democratic Parties and the Nizhniy Novgorod Bloc of Centrist Forces, which have considerably strengthened their positions among voters following the inclusion in the bloc of trade unions and the Council of Veterans.

In the very near future it is also planned to hold an oblast congress of the Confederation of Entrepreneurs at which the entrepreneurs will determine their position on the reform of representative organs of power. But a number of well-known local bankers, together with state apparatus workers and cultural figures, have registered the "Delo" public association of voters. It will support those candidates who, as the action group's address puts it, "have merited our respect through their businesslike qualities at this most difficult of times."

A coordinating council has been set up headed by Oblast Soviet Chairman Yevgeniy Krestyaninov and Oblast Administration Head Boris Nemtsov. The new organ will monitor the activity of okrug and district commissions and rayon and city organs of power during the federal elections in all six single-seat okrugs on the oblast's territory.

Moreover, the authorities have instructed an interim committee to be set up to coordinate the work of all Nizhniy Novgorod state TV and radio companies, which will now be obliged to provide equal opportunities to all candidates to broadcast direct to voters.

Personalities Could Outweigh Policies in Tambov Race

PM2110154193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Yevgeniy Pisarev report under the general heading "Diverse Positions": "Personal Sympathies Valued Again"]

[Text] Tambov—A new abbreviation—UDO—has appeared in Tambov Oblast's sociopolitical life. The oblast Union of Democratic Organizations unites several parties and movements, new trade unions, and creative associations. The conference adopted rules and a political statement that has essentially become the union's election program.

Speaking at the conference, Mayor Valeriy Koval of Tambov noted that the new organization is not a rejection of "Democratic Russia," which is an organic part of the UDO, but an expansion of the democratic movement's social base for practical work, and an opportunity to attract sympathizers to it.

Particular attention was paid to those who have not found their feet under the new conditions and who have been most acutely affected by the burdens of the transitional period. In this avenue, the UDO is close to the program of the social democrats and will therefore undoubtedly strike a chord with the more vulnerable sections of the population. At the same time, the UDO openly opposes extremist groupings, whose official and unofficial leaders are also seeking support among the poor and among those who have been poisoned by totalitarianism.

The UDO's attitude to the "Russia's Choice" electoral bloc, which has already begun its election campaign and nominated its State Duma candidates, triggered a stormy debate at the conference. In terms of its political program, "Russia's Choice" is close to the UDO, which allowed the conference to state its support for the Gaydar bloc on the basis of written agreements.

The formation of two influential political blocs in Tambov will undoubtedly increase voters' activeness. But, on the basis of the experience of years past and given current sentiments in society, it can be stated with confidence that voters will be gearing themselves not so much to the blocs' programs as to their leaders—Mayor Valeriy Koval of Tambov (the UDO) and presidential representative Valentin Davituliani ("Russia's Choice"). Both are quite well-known to and held in regard by the voters of Tambov Oblast.

District Electoral Commissions Organized in Khabarovsk

OW2210084793 Khabarovsk Radio Khabarovsk Network in Russian 0945 GMT 20 Oct 93

[From the "Kray News"]

[Text] The head of the Kray administration has issued a directive confirming the list of candidate members to the district electoral commissions in Khabarovsk Kray, in accordance with the conditions of election of deputies to the State Duma. Each district electoral commission will have ten members.

The chairmen of Khabarovsk and Komsomolsk-na-Amure district electoral commissions are, respectively, Mikhail Leonidovich Sleptsov, chief of the Kray administration legal department, and Aleksandr Petrovich Vasiliev, chief of the Komsomolsk-na-Amure Electrical Engineering Plant legal office. Their names have been submitted for approval to the Central Electoral Commission.

Chechen President Will Not Participate in 12 Dec Elections

LD2110184193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1426 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Chechen President Jokhar Dudayev said in no uncertain terms that his republic, as an independent country, did not intend to participate in the December 12 elections to the Russian Federal Assembly. The Moscow Echo radio station and INTERFAX heard this from Valeriy Krasnyanskiy, member of the Central Electoral Commission. He had recently been to Groznyy with Kim Tsagolov, deputy chairman of the State Committee on Federation Affairs, for talks with Dudayev.

In Krasnyanskiy's words, the Chechen president described the December 12 elections as illegitimate and said that Russia was pursuing "a policy of state-sponsored terrorism" by sending weapons there.

On the other hand, Krasnyanskiy said, Dudayev did not object to the setting up of polling stations in Chechnya, provided that these were incorporated into the electoral districts of, say, Chechen-Ingushetia or the Stavropol Territory. Krasnyanskiy could not say whether this proposal would be considered. He noted that this was "up to the State Committee on Federation Affairs."

Chechen Opposition Leader Seeks Elections

LD2110121193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0943 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuev]

[Text] Groznyy October 21 TASS—"Rumours about the death of the Chechen Government of Popular Confidence are very much exaggerated," Yaragi Mamodayev, head of that authority, which is in opposition to Dzhokhar Dudayev, told ITAR-TASS today. Mamodayev said he had just returned from a trip abroad, which was very useful for the republic.

Yaragi Mamodayev was appointed head of the Government of Popular Confidence by the Chechen Parliament during the April crisis in the Chechen Republic, which ended with the dispersing of the parliament and the shooting down of the forces opposing the president. However, Mamodayev did not obey the orders of his former friend Dzhokhar Dudayev. He left for Moscow and continued to establish economic and political contacts with Russian authorities, seeking to get his republic out of a grave economic crisis.

Commenting on the problem of Chechnya's attitude to the forthcoming Russian elections, Mamodayev said that the future of Chechen-Russian relations, including the attitude to the elections, should be decided only by the new power structures in Chechnya, elected in a lawful way on a democratic basis. According to Mamodayev, the Government of Popular Confidence, supported by all the healthy patriotically-minded forces of the republic, has already started preparations for elections to a new Chechen parliament, which, in its turn, will from an executive branch of authority.

Terrorist Acts in Groznyy Linked to Russian Elections

LD2110214993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2012 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Chechen Deputy Foreign Minister Said Geliskhanov has said there was a certain link between the recent terrorist acts in the Chechen capital of Groznyy and the attempts to push Chechnia towards taking part in the coming elections to the Russian Federal Assembly. Speaking at a briefing in Groznyy, he did not rule out the possibility of new provocations and the use of force against the Chechen Republic.

When unknown terrorists recently cut off the city's vital utilities for nearly 24 hours, the Chechen authorities introduced severe measures to maintain public order. In particular, they imposed a curfew from 21:00 to 6:00 as well as reinforcing check-points and security around the presidential palace with several armored vehicles.

Tatarstan Lists Weapons, Defense Technology for Export

LD2110091493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0834 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Sorokin]

[Text] Kazan October 21 TASS—Tatarstan which proclaimed its complete sovereignty, does not want to break unity and territorial integrity of Russia but plans to implement its own foreign economic activities. The Tatar Parliament started to discuss this concept at its session on Thursday [21 October].

Seeking to join the international division of labour, the republic is looking for its own "niches" in the world economy. In the opinion of specialists, production and thorough processing of oil and gas as well as the environmental control are the most promising areas of internatioal relations.

"Weapons, ammunition and new defence technologies will occupy an important place in the export of high-tech products," the document under discussion says. This right is provided for by a special agreement signed between the Russian and Tatar Governments.

Participation in international tourism occupies a place of prominence in the draft concept. The great Volga River draws tourists as in the past. There are quite a number of historical and cultural monuments in Kazan, Sviyazhsk, Velikiye Bolgary and Yelabuga.

It is planned to open an international airport in Kazan and to drive a "Europe-Asia" transcontinental highway across Tatarstan. The above creates chances to turn the republic into a noticeable tourist centre.

Tatarstan will encourage direct foreign investments, especially in the priority areas: the agroindustrial, fuel and energy and military-industrial complexes as well as in housing and social-cultural construction, the concept notes.

For this purpose, the republic sets up a special intersectoral body for foreign investments and develops a mechanism for state guarantees of investments.

At the same time, Tatarstan plans to build or purchase abroad enterprises to manufacture goods, the production of which is unprofitable in the republic.

Tatar President Mintimer Shaymiyev participates in the parliamentary session.

St. Petersburg Deputy Mayor Faces Criminal Proceedings

PM2110152993 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 2

[Yuriy Kukanov report under "Corruption" rubric: "Deputy Mayor Accused of Smuggling"]

[Text] St. Petersburg—A vehicle being driven by A. Matveyev, general director of the St. Petersburg commercial firm of "Aleksandr A.," was detained on the Russian-Finnish border 30 September. Glass ampoules containing eight grams of osmium-187 of the platinum metal group were discovered during an inspection of the vehicle. According to expert assessments, one gram of this substance is worth over $100,000 on the world market.

L. Savenkov, deputy mayor of St. Petersburg, who headed the Committee on Trade, Public Catering, Consumer Services, and the City's Food Supply, was detained in his work office in the Smolnyy during the first days of October. Before receving his Smolnyy post, he was director of the Russian-Belgian "'Alisa' Trading House" joint venture.

The press service of the St. Petersburg Administration of the Russian Ministry of Security has reported that criminal proceedings, within whose framework the deputy head of the city administration was arrested, were instituted 11 September.

More than 3 million rubles, more than $10,000, five color television sets, four video recorders, two video cameras, and four radio cassette recorders were confiscated during searches in his work office, apartment, and dacha.

Komi Republic Could Get 'Temporary' President

PM2110095793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 20 Oct 93 p 2

[Unattributed report under the general heading "Regions"]

[Text] It is possible that the Komi Republic Supreme Soviet may elect a temporary president "as an interim measure in the transitional period of constitutional reform." According to a plan disseminated Monday [18 October] the government should be subordinate during this period to the president, who should also be "entitled to issue normative edicts."

Kaliningrad Admiral Views Politics, NATO

AU2110160593 Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 15-17 Oct 93 p 6

[Interview with Admiral Vladimir Yegorov, commander of the Russian Baltic Fleet and commander of the Kaliningrad Garrison, by Wojciech Luczak; place and date not given: "Kaliningrad Is Loyal to Yeltsin"]

[Text] [Luczak] During the Moscow crisis, some Polish commentators pointed out that there was a danger of forces from the Kaliningrad District crossing Poland to intervene in the domestic conflict in Russia. What would your comments on that be?

[Yegorov] You do not need to worry. There was never a danger of that kind. All the time we have been doing what we should be doing—training forces. There is no shortage of work. The training year is drawing to a close and we are preparing for the reviews. That calls for a great effort, because, as you no doubt realize, we are currently reorganizing. These activities are aimed at reducing the fleet's military structures and making them uniform. At the same time, one cannot lose sight of the most important thing—maintaining the combat and technical readiness of the naval forces. In addition, we have to ensure that naval families who are being evacuated from the Baltic states at a time when everything is in short supply have a roof over their heads. There is no shortage of problems. That is why I can assure you that the danger that you mentioned does not exist.

[Luczak] It was the Army, however, that restored order in the streets of Moscow. It is being said that the Armed Forces are becoming increasingly important in Russian politics. How are important are they?

[Yegorov] I think that events in Moscow have once again emphasized that the Armed Forces are the strongest and most permanent element in our state organism. It is no secret that the Army was the object of severe criticism. Very many very bad things have been said and written about the Army. If the military took on carrying out a task that entailed a risk as serious as that of the loss of life, then that means that there is no other force that is that committed to safeguarding the interests of the state. The victims of those bloody days in Moscow should incline everyone to reflect on the importance of the Army for the state. I would like to point out that people were immensely grateful that the Army did not allow the conflict to spread and cause an even greater sea of blood to be shed.

[Luczak] It is, however, thought that Rutskoy enjoyed considerable authority in the Armed Forces. Many people also think that the Moscow massacre will result in deep divisions in Russian society that may be carried over into the Armed Forces. Will the Army remain united?

[Yegorov] I am convinced that there will be no divisions in the Armed Forces. The plans of those who supported the revolt were thwarted. On behalf of the Baltic Fleet, I can say that we believe that the Army will not be split. If someone wants to bring that about, then I would say that his intentions are evil. Our people has already had more than enough of such divisions. They have resulted in losses, including the loss of life, on a colossal scale, and no one needs that any more.

[Luczak] Some maintain that peace in Russia depends on the situation in the various regions of the great state. The Kaliningrad District is one of them....

[Yegorov] It is a peaceful district. During those tragic days, it affirmed its recognition of the authority of the Russian president. This applied to all the structures. I was kept informed about the situation in the bases and around them all the time. These are not empty words.

[Luczak] You said that the Baltic Fleet is in the process of being reorganized. What is important for the Poles, however, is whether the number of troops here will be increased or whether there will be significant reductions in the units stationed here....

[Yegorov] It is true that like the Army, the Navy is undergoing profound reforms. The number of vessels has been reduced three times, comparing the figure for today with that for 1983. Altogether, by 1 January 1995, our naval forces will be reduced by 40 percent. Currently, however, there has been a slight increase in the Kaliningrad District. This is because of the withdrawal of naval units from neighboring countries. All we have left in Germany is an 18-man radio and navigational unit. Those people will return to us along with the other units that are being withdrawn. On 29 October 1992, we completed the withdrawal of forces from Poland. That was when we transferred the 24 brigade of torpedo cutters from Swinoujscie to Kaliningrad. We disbanded that unit on 1 October. The cutters have been removed from the fleet and the personnel has been assigned elsewhere.

We have still not removed that many vessels from the Baltic states. One vessel has sailed to Baltiysk along with repair facilities. We will send other vessels to Kronstadt and Lomonosov. In the future, we are planning to withdraw further vessels from the Liepaja base in Latvia. We will transfer them to Baltiysk, and then there will be an increase in our forces in the Kaliningrad District. There is no other possibility. Then, however, units will be removed from the total number of vessels in the fleet. On 31 August, we removed a coastal defense division from Lithuania. It has been disbanded. The equipment was sent to Russia. I promise you that the forces around Kaliningrad will be systematically reduced.

I would not, however, like to break off contact with Polish repair shipyards. We have had 50 vessels docked in Poland. We are counting on repairs to our large landing vessels, which were built in Poland incidentally.

[Luczak] Are there nuclear weapons at the main base, Baltiysk?

[Yegorov] There have not been any for a number of years, from the time when a decision was made to remove nuclear weapons from the Baltic.

[Luczak] Will you allow Polish vessels to sail freely through the Vistula Bay to the Baltic, through the straits separating Baltiysk from the Vistula sand-bar?

[Yegorov] We in the military see no reason why that should not be possible. However, one should talk to the ichthyologists, who are concerned about a sudden change in the conditions for marine life. From the economic point of view, one should determine a particular route, mark it, and deepen it, and that should be the subject of negotiations. I think that the Polish side should display more initiative so that Elblag becomes a maritime port once again.

[Luczak] Let us imagine that it is already 1 January 1995. What tasks will the Baltic fleet have once it has been reorganized?

[Yegorov] Solely defensive tasks. We will defend Russia's interests in the Baltic, ensure that our deep-sea fishing waters are not violated. Incidentally, without making any allusions, I would like to say that I have received reports that vessels sailing under very exotic flags at times have been fishing in the waters on the young states of Lithuania and Latvia without any problems....

[Luczak] What is your attitude to the possibility of Poland's inclusion in NATO?

[Yegorov] It is difficult for me to talk about this, but I will be direct. I am not speaking about this as the commander of the Baltic Fleet, but I think that it would not be a good move. Let us reverse roles. I would ask you what that decision would mean for the Kaliningrad District... It implies the preparation of a Polish infrastructure for the deployment of NATO forces. If that happens, then I have a right to feel threatened if the course of events ever took an extreme turn. That is why I say that it would it be an unfortunate move. In addition, what makes such a step necessary for Poland. Does someone want to attack you? I think that a definite majority of the citizens of the Kaliningrad District would share that view. Of course, NATO is itself reforming, but does one have to extend the ranks of a pact that is already sufficiently extended?

Balance of Stavropol Political Forces Eyed

PM2110084593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Report by Nikolay Gritchin: "Stavropol Kray's Democratic Bloc Does Not Support M. Gorbachev's Nomination"]

[Text] Three main forces are determining Stavropol Kray's political climate on the eve of the elections.

The left flank is held by the "People Power" Bloc, formed in July 1993. The bloc incorporates representatives of communist organizations—the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks (50 members), the Russian Communist Workers Party (200 members), and the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (10,000 members)—as well as the Socialist Party of Working People (2,000 members), the "Working Stavropol" Movement, the Agrarian Union, the Agrarian Party, a veterans' organization, a health and sobriety society, a society for the deaf, and the majority of factions in the kray soviet.

The communist movement is represented in the kray by virtually the full range of communist organizations. Rising prices, the deepening economic and political crisis, and the drop in the population's real standard of living are actively used by these forces in appealing to the masses. Their political experience and the fact that they still have supporters in virtually all active power structures strengthen their hopes of a convincing victory in the forthcoming elections. I do not know whether the Communists will legally be able to take part in the elections, but their hopes of victory are soundly based.

The purpose of forming a collective election bloc is to work out a common platform and nominate agreed candidates during elections to representative and executive power structures (for some reason, Stavropol Kray is firmly convinced that heads of administration will also definitely stand for election next year). The bloc's activists are conducting constant propaganda work to compromise B. Yeltsin's policies, organizing pickets and rallies and distributing leaflets. Communists and national patriots (the Russian Patriotic Movement of Stavropol Kray has 200 members) have drawn noticeably closer together, with the latter's representatives taking part in the political actions of communist organizations.

The results of the by-elections to the kray soviet, held six weeks ago, have served as a powerful incentive for Communists to step up their activity. Candidates from the communist bloc won in all seven of the kray's electoral districts, filling the seats in the kray soviet vacated by deputies from democratic organizations, who have transferred to other work in executive bodies. All the conditions for a repeat of the Moscow situation, which ended in tragedy, have thus formed in Stavropol Kray.

The social makeup of the left-wing parties is as follows: workers, some members of the intelligentsia (mainly lecturers in social sciences at higher education establishments), and a large proportion of agricultural workers.

The democratic movement is represented by all the main parties and organizations of this orientation. In a number of cases, however, the stand taken by the Stavropol associations is substantially different from the stance taken by the leaders of the very same parties in Moscow.

A regional branch of the sociopolitical movement "Russia's Choice" (led by Yegor Gaydar) has been formed in Stavropol Kray. It brings together kray-level organizations of the Democratic Party of Russia, the Republic Party of the Russian Federation, the Free Russia People's Party, and the Christian Democratic Union, plus a number of public associations and organizations. The purpose of organizing the movement is to be able to take part in the forthcoming election campaign to federal and regional organs of power as a single bloc.

The idea of a regional association of democrats was proposed by local representatives of the Democratic Party of Russia and the Free Russia People's Party, who are afraid of ending up as hostages to the unpredictable behavior of their Moscow leaders during the elections. The Democratic Party of Russia is headed by Nikolay Travkin, and its Moscow branch—unlike its Stavropol counterpart—will be standing independently in the elections, preferring not to form a bloc with anyone.

The Moscow branch of the "Russia's Choice" Bloc has promised to allocate the kray organization a fixed quota in the federal list. The regional list is headed by V. Krasu¸a, deputy head of the kray administration and initiator of the Stavropol Kray People's Front. M. Gorbachev and G. Starovoytova were discussed, but they failed to win the requisite number of votes to be entered on the list of candidates from Stavropol Kray's democratic bloc.

Of all the democratic organizations in the kray, the Democratic Party of Russia leads in terms of numbers and is the most active. It has a fairly broad social base: employees, engineering and technical workers, cooperative workers, and private farmers. Primary party organizations have been set up in all of the kray's cities and rayons. But the party is losing members, as are all other democratic organizations. Of the 1,000 people who joined when the Stavropol branch was first formed, only one-third remain at most. The small kray branch of the Republic Party (200 members), which mainly consists of intelligentsia and engineering and technical workers, actively cooperates with the Democratic Party of Russia.

The Free Russia People's Party was the second largest (300 members), but its activity has now been suspended. Part of this party's kray branch supported its Moscow leader A. Rutskoy, while the other part formed a committee in support of the Russian president.

The "Democratic Russia" Movement in Stavropol Kray has been significantly weakened by the withdrawal of the

Democratic Party of Russia branch. Moreover, the movement's leadership is sharply divided in its attitude to B. Yeltsin's policies.

For the moment, the Cossacks in Stavropol Kray stand aloof, refusing to side with either the opposition or the democrats. In terms of numbers, they are the most powerful movement, with some 70,000 members. The movement is rapidly scoring points by taking action to protect the Russian-speaking population and to instil order by specific "Cossack methods"; this is particularly true among the population of border regions and in areas inundated by non-Slav refugees. Measures by the president and the government to support the Cossacks are strengthening the movement's bias toward the president. However, I cannot see this support lasting very long: Committed to communal land use, the Cossacks are very wary of the federal authorities' intention to freely sell land.

All three political forces are in favor of early elections. The democrats are being particularly active. The Cossacks have a problem: Their regulations make no provision for the movement taking part in elections on an organized basis. Consequently, they are considering the possibility of changing their regulations or forming a Cossack party. The "People Power" Bloc still insists that the elections are illegitimate and illegal, but it is possible that it will soon change its stance and take part in the elections.

International Affairs

Plyushch, U.S. Envoy Discuss START I Treaty

LD2110191193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1806 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Petrunya—TASS]

[Text] Kiev, 21 October—The Ukrainian parliament, in all probability, "will be able to ratify the START-I Treaty this year on condition that the deputies receive weighty explanations of the mechanisms for eliminating the strategic nuclear weaponry present on Ukrainian territory, ways of compensation and clear guarantees for Ukraine's national security," Ivan Plyushch, the chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet stated today during a meeting with U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Miller.

Ukraine, Ivan Plyushch reported, is not declining trilateral Ukrainian-Russian-American talks on cutting nuclear weaponry.

However, the speaker said, "In conditions when Russia's supreme legislative body has adopted decisions directly aimed at violating Ukraine's territorial integrity (meaning the status of Sevastopol), the Ukrainian parliament has the right to raise the question of collective security and guarantees for its security and a clear mechanism for eliminating nuclear weaponry and compensation for the fuel contined in the missiles."

Deputies Set Conditions for START I Ratification

LD2210101193 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 22 Oct 93

[Text] The deputies of the Ukrainian Parliament have put forward a number of conditions for ratifying the START I treaty this year. The deputies are insisting on clarification of the mechanism for eliminating strategic nuclear weapons on Ukrainian territory, clarification of the ways in which compensation is to be effected, and clarification of the clear-cut guarantees of Ukraine's national security.

This stance was announced during a meeting with William Miller, U.S. ambassador to the Ukraine, by Ivan Plyushch, chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet. Ukraine, he said, does not reject the holding of trilateral Ukrainian-Russian-U.S. talks on the reduction of nuclear weapons.

Shmarov on Disputes With Russia Over Nuclear Arms

LD2110215093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2012 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Ukraine's Vice Premier [deputy prime minister] Valeriy Shmarov, in charge of the military-industrial complex, regrets that the question of ownership of the nuclear weapons deployed in Ukraine remains unsettled and blames all problems in relations with Russia on this issue.

In an interview with Interfax on Thursday, he reiterated Ukraine's right to possess the nuclear weapons on its territory. However, the nuclear arms have, in fact, begun to be moved into Russia, he said.

He recalled the times when battlefield nuclear weapons were withdrawn from the republic without any question of compensation, yet this weaponry might have made tons of low-enriched uranium for Ukrainian nuclear power plants. The picture for Ukraine, currently in the throws of an energy crisis, would not have been as bleak as it looks today, he pointed out.

On the Ukrainian Defense Ministry's position, Shmarov remarked that the military does not want the warheads to disappear from the republic without a trace.

However, he gave the assurance that Ukraine is ready to ship to Russia obsolete or nearly outdated weapons. In this connection, he had sent a cable to Russia's Nuclear Power Engineering Minister Victor Mikhailov, asking him to confirm whether these warheads would be taken into account in the agreements signed in Massandra, and whether Ukraine could count on uranium supplies for its nuclear power stations in return.

On the position taken by Russia and the U.S., insisting on the immediate removal of nuclear warheads from Ukraine, Shmarov noted that once this problem was solved, "we would confront the most difficult and costly task of dismantling the silos and delivery vehicles."

He is convinced that "after the warheads withdrawal, no one will discuss how to utilize missiles with us," for this reason, Ukraine urges discussing these issues in a single package. Ukrainian experts claim that it will cost $1.5-2 Bn to scrap missiles. The U.S. is ready to provide only $175 Mn.

In Shmarov's words, economic problems can make it difficult for Ukraine to implement START-1, which parliament could ratify already this year. The issues are to be examined with U.S. secretary of State Warren Christopher when he visits Ukraine on October 24-26.

Shmarov: 'Economic Problems' Govern Denuclearization

PM2210100193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Oct 93 First Edition pp 1-2

[Report by Aleksandr Martynenko of INTERFAX-UKRAINA: "Ukraine's Nuclear Obstacles Will Be Cleared, Valeriy Shmarov, Ukrainian Vice Premier for the Military-Industrial Complex, Declares"]

[Text] Ukraine really does consider the nuclear weapons sited on its territory to be its own. But the process of removing them to Russia has already virtually begun. V.

Shmarov said, commenting on Major General Vitaliy Yakovlev's article (IZVESTIYA No. 199).

Shmarov considers precisely the past failure to resolve the question of ownership of the nuclear weapons sited in Ukraine to be the chief cause of all the problems at the Ukrainian-Russian talks on this topic.

He recalled that in the past tactical nuclear weapons, which could have been turned into tens of tonnes of low-grade uranium for Ukrainian nuclear electric power stations, were removed from the republic's territory virtually without payment. This would have provided substantial support for Ukraine, which today is experiencing a grave energy crisis.

Disagreements over the question of ownership gave rise to nervousness in relations between the top military leaders of Russia and Ukraine. "If we had realized last spring that Russia would recognize our right of ownership and known that compensation would be received for the nuclear weapons, there would have been no problems," Shmarov maintains.

After the May directive of the Russian Defense Ministry's 12th Main Directorate disbanding the "S" installations—stores of nuclear charges—the Ukrainian side transferred them to its own jurisdiction and took measures to provide them with cadres. "While we were dropping diplomatic curtsies, the military was adopting specific decisions," the Ukrainian vice premier said.

According to him, the Ukrainian Defense Ministry leadership acted on the basis of a desire to ensure that the charges did not "vanish" without trace from the republic.

By 1 September 1993 everything that could be removed had been removed from the "S" installations, and the officers had been transferred to Russia. This has led to the result, according to Shmarov, that today the installations are "incapable of fulfilling their functions." Ukraine has ended up with few nuclear weapon servicing specialists.

Precisely at the end of August, when the Russian military had already left the installations and the Ukrainian military had not yet arrived, the stockpiling of new charges there became impossible, and they piled up at missile-technical bases among the troops. It was then that the temperature rose 1.5 degrees above the norm because of an excessive buildup of the weapons at one base. The Russian specialists who went to the base concluded that there was a need to disperse the weapons.

"We are intending to do this now and are preparing to dispatch charges whose warranty period has expired or is about to expire," Shmarov said. On 18 October he sent a telegram to Viktor Mikhaylov, Russian minister of atomic energy, asking him to confirm that these weapons would be taken into account in fulfillment of the Massandra accords and that Ukraine could count on reciprocal deliveries of uranium for nuclear electric power stations.

Shmarov emphasized that weapons are starting to be removed even before ratification of these agreements by the Ukrainian parliament. "However long we drag out our altercations in parliament and all kinds of political investigations, no one has the right to subject the people to the danger associated with the presence in Ukraine of munitions whose storage times have expired. One Chernobyl is enough for our people," he said.

The transfer of the "S" installations to Russia's jurisdiction is already impossible today. Moreover, fulfillment of the Massandra agreements will result in Ukraine's simply having no need of them—the charges will be sent to Russia right from the army bases.

Russia and the United States continue to insist on the removal of nuclear warheads from Ukrainian territory without delay, and this is technically possible. But... "we understand perfectly well that, as soon as we resolve this problem, we will be left with the very difficult and costly task of dismantling silo installations and launch vehicles."

Shmarov believes that "after the warheads' removal no one is going to discuss salvaging the missiles with us," and so Ukraine insists on the need to resolve these questions as a single package. At the same time Ukrainian specialists cite a sum of $1.5-2 billion for expenditure on destroying the missiles. The United States has expressed readiness to provide just $175 million.

Shmarov is convinced that this will not accelerate the process of dismantling the missiles. According to him, this money is being offered by the U.S. side for space communications, acquiring computers, consultations, etc. "We do not need consultations on conversion—we need ordinary diesel fuel to allow tow trucks, cranes, and bulldozers to work," he said.

Ukraine's economic problems could be precisely what affects the process of fulfilling the START I Treaty, which the Ukrainian parliament could ratify this year. These problems are to be discussed 24-26 October during U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to Ukraine.

Many Ukrainian politicians are concerned about what Ukraine will be left with following the elimination of the nuclear weapons. Shmarov spoke of the need to replace them with "highly accurate nonnuclear strategic weapons." Addressing parliament, Ukrainian Defense Minister Vitaliy Radetskiy spoke of weapons based on "new physical principles."

At the same time many deputies of the Ukrainian parliament are continuing to resist pressure from nuclear states. "Neither the United States nor Russia will succeed in getting Ukraine to disarm the way Belarus, for

example, has done." Dmitriy Pavlychko, chairman of the parliamentary International Affairs Commission, believes.

The Ukrainian leaders still have to convince patriotically minded parliamentarians that the republic's defense capability will not suffer in the process of nuclear disarmament. It is, however, obvious today that this is a problem that will face the new parliament to be elected next March.

Reasons for Envoy Lukyanenko's Resignation Viewed

AU2110125293 Kiev MOLOD UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 19 Oct 93 p 1

[Commentary by UNIAN correspondent Yuriy Lukanov from Ottawa-Toronto-Kiev: "Why Is Lukyanenko Returning?"]

[Text] One of the latest pieces of political news: Ukraine's Ambassador in Canada has sent in his resignation. Consequently, after his work in the diplomatic corps, the dissident with a 26-year-imprisonment record is returning to Ukraine.

He was appointed ambassador after the devastating defeat in the presidential elections. Perhaps, no other diplomatic appointment gave rise to so much talk. Some people said that, by sending Lukyanenko into political exile, President Kravchuk was getting rid of one of the influential leaders of the opposition. Others asserted that Lukyanenko had sold himself to Kravchuk for a cushy job.

Lukyanenko's resignation has given food for as much talk. According to KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI, head of the Information Service at Ukraine's Foreign Ministry, Yuriy Serheyev explained this event in the following way: "Levko Lukyanenko believes that he has completed his mission of 'building bridges' between the two countries, and now, until a new ambassador is appointed, adviser-envoy Andriy Veselovskyy will fulfill his functions." According to rumors, Lukyanenko had either failed his mission and had to resign or is going to run for the Ukrainian presidential post again.

Not a single other Ukrainian ambassador was involved in so many scandals as was the seemingly composed Levko Lukyanenko in his diplomatic career. Even though Lukyanenko had nothing to do with the first scandal, still it is associated with the name of the ambassador. The well-known Canadian businessman of Ukrainian descent Erast Hutsulyak and the Center of the Congress of Ukrainians in Canada had an argument. The quarrel was about purchasing a building for the embassy. In the end, the building was purchased by Erast Hutsulyak and the premises for the embassy—by the Congress of Ukrainians in Canada. According to Lukyanenko, they lease these buildings for a symbolic price and are planning to make them Ukraine's property later.

As Lukyanenko said, the problems with the building had distracted his attention from more important tasks—the establishment of political contacts. However, when the problems were resolved, on December 1992, an official inauguration of the embassy took place. Everybody who described the event, pointed out the fact that Lukyanenko, in accordance with the Ukrainian national tradition, before crossing the threshold, let in a rooster there. Sometimes, the building resembled the ambassador's home. For example, one could see Lukyanenko's wife's little granddaughter there, freely entering the ambassador's office. The all-Canadian periodical GLOBE AND MAIL portrayed Levko Lukyanenko as follows: "With his thick bow-shaped moustache and disposition to deliver sharp speeches, Mr. Lukyanenko is a colorful figure in the diplomatic circles of Ottawa."

While the differences around the embassy building were, so to speak, confined to the internal affairs of the Diaspora, the next scandal received international publicity. Two Ukrainian diplomats Oleksiy Rodionov and Yevhen Kucher asked for political asylum. The Ukrainian-born Oleksiy Rodionov had worked in the former embassy of the USSR and then started working at the newly created Ukrainian embassy. Yevhen Kucher, before arriving in Canada, worked in the Supreme Council's Commission for International Affairs. They asked to be granted the refugee status after the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recalled them to Kiev following an automobile accident in which Kucher and Rodionov badly damaged two embassy cars. The accident took place in October 1992 not far from the old Soviet embassy and became the spark that actually triggered the brewing conflict. Kucher maintains that Lukyanenko has the "mentality of a prison camp inmate" and that it is impossible to work with him. Rodionov states that Lukyanenko accused him of spying for Russia. The ambassador himself asserts that the reason for recalling the diplomats was their alcohol abuse and dishonesty.

Shortly after that, the case of the embassy press attache Borys Bilyashivskyy received almost international publicity. He was also recalled by Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, he locked himself in his apartment and refused to return to Kiev. People say that the cause for recalling him was alcohol abuse. Lukyanenko explained the problems regarding the cadres as a natural process of development, characteristic of any organization.

Yet another scandal occurred during the visit of the former dissident friend—leader of the Ukrainian opposition—Vyacheslav Chornovil. Lukyanenko refused to hold an official meeting with him on the grounds that Chornovil was not a high-ranking official.

The case of Lukyanenko's portrait was also a matter of discussion in the Diaspora. He ordered the portrait to be painted by a Canadian artist, and sent the bill, amounting to 6,000 Canadian dollars, to the Congress of Ukrainians in Canada.

In his interview given to a UNIAN correspondent, Mr. Lukyanenko assured him that the embassy was actively promoting the establishment of economic ties between Ukraine and Canada. In particular, an accord was reached on the building, by the Canadian side, of an electric power plant in Kiev's Darnytsya district. A boot and shoe firm in Montreal has equipped several shoe factories in Ukraine, and their products are in great demand in Canada. Canadian entrepreneur Mr. Soltas opened a cheese-manufacturing enterprise in Ukraine. Its products were positively appraised by Dutch experts.

According to Lukyanenko, over the period of his diplomatic work, Canada has not changed its attitude toward Ukraine. It continues to make its assistance to Ukraine conditional upon Ukraine's signing the agreement on nuclear weapons.

Summing up Levko Lukyanenko's activity as Ukraine's ambassador in Canada, one can say that he has managed to accomplish a very complicated task: He has "launched" the embassy's machine. On the other hand, the frequent scandals did not, in any way, contribute to creating a positive image of Ukraine. If anybody else had been in Lukyanenko's place, he would have been dismissed after the first scandal. However, such a conspicuous figure as Lukyanenko could not be so easily removed. Perhaps, feeling that it is impossible to achieve success in the diplomatic sphere if one has a reputation as a quarrelsome person, Levko Hryhorovych [Lukyanenko] handed in his resignation. If he had not done so, he would have been recommended to do so, sooner or later.

One question arises in connection with Lukyanenko's return. He will, certainly, seek to occupy a position in political life. Meanwhile, the post of chairman of the Ukrainian Republican Party has been occupied by his friend Mykhaylo Horyn. Where is the way out of this situation? Will there be yet another conflict?

National Affairs

Parliament Decides Not To Shut Down Chernobyl

LD2110104293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1015 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By UKRINFORM CORRESPONDENT Aleksandr Litvinov for TASS]

[Text] Kiev October 21 TASS—The Chernobyl nuclear power plant will not be shut down, the Ukrainian parliament decided on Thursday thus canceling its earlier decision envisaging to close the plant by the end of this year.

The moratorium on the construction of new nuclear power plants in Ukraine has been also lifetd.

The worst world nuclear accident occurred at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in 1986 when one of its reactors exploded.

Energy Crisis Prods Restart of Chernobyl Power Station

MK2110124593 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 68, 21 Oct 93 (signed to press 20 Oct) p 5

[Dmitriy Zhdannikov report: "Will Chernobyl Nuclear Electric Power Station Be Revived? Republic's Cabinet Insists on Lifting Moratorium on Running it"]

[Text] The deep fuel and energy crisis that struck Ukraine on the threshold of the current year forced the present government to look for an exit from the situation that has taken shape. According to unofficial information obtained by your SEGODNYA correspondent from the Ukrainian Council of Ministers, a decision was made, at the cabinet session chaired by President Leonid Kravchuk on 15 October, to request that parliament include in its agenda on 19 October the question of suspending the validity of the Supreme Soviet decision on the Chernobyl Nuclear Electric Power Station's [AES] withdrawal from operation.

The lifting of the ban on running the Chernobyl AES will undoubtedly tell on Ukraine's international prestige, at least the republic's political reputation in the eyes of its close neighbors. It would be at least strange to blame Ukraine in any way under the present situation: When your radiator gets turned off you think of turning on your electric heater, which is much less safe. Thus, under the circumstances, there is simply no other way out, and one should ask oneself whether considerations of necessity outweigh considerations of safety.

In the meantime the situation for bringing the electric power station back on line is far from being favorable because the Ukrainian Atomic Energy Ministry at the moment is in no better situation than the analogous structure in Russia (it is down the financial hole, to put it plainly). Under a preliminary plan, the reconstruction of the Chernobyl AES provided for more than 100 safety-improvement measures. It seems doubtful that even half the measures could be performed given the fact that directors of the other Ukrainian electric power stations (Rovno and Zaporozhye) have repeatedly said they were in no position to maintain total safety of their own generating units owing to the broken ties with Russia.

The problem Ukraine has to tackle, however, is not as desperate as it may seem. One way out is being suggested by the Ukrainian government itself: to include on the Ukrainian parliament's agenda the question of lifting the moratorium on finishing the construction of generating units at the Rovno and Khmelnitsk nuclear electric power stations.

Should the capacities of the above electric power stations fall short of bridging the colossal energy gap, Ukraine would do well if it finalizes detailed plans for the reconstruction of the Chernobyl AES, and if Russia stops saying it is going to have no part in it on the plea that this is not mine, so why bother. Radioactive clouds are

known to disregard territorial borders and to spread not only within the confines of one state, however sovereign.

Two Periodicals Prosecuted for 'Antistate Activity'

AU2110175993 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 20 Oct 93 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Newspapers in the Dock"]

[Text] Criminal proceedings have been initiated against two independent Chernivtsi periodicals—OBYEKTIVNAYA GAZETA [in Russian] and PLAI ROMANESC [in Romanian]. They are accused of antistate activity. On 21 October, Chernivtsi's Pershotravnevyy Court will begin its consideration of the case.

Officials Complain of Leaked Meeting Minutes to BBC

LD2110124393 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 0800 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Remarks by Albert Korneyev on behalf of the Commission of Ukrainian State Sovereignty, at Ukrainian Supreme Council session in Kiev—live]

[Text] Esteemed president. Esteemed chairman of the Supreme Council. Esteemed people's deputies! The state of Ukraine's national security, according to a general estimate of members of our commission, is alarming. This alarm is expressed in the form of concern in our personal perceptions and pronouncements of other people, in all numerous facts which have been given in the reports we heard yesterday and the day before. It is true that these facts cannot but give rise to concern.

For example, after the first closed sitting, literally an hour later the BBC, through its BBC correspondent Mykola Veresen, broadcast a full summary of the report by Defense Minister Radetskyy, an account of the way the voting on the military doctrine went, saying the deputies even did not have the text of the military doctrine, and a full account of the way the voting went on the resolution on the size of the armed forces. All that after a concerned report by the chairman of the Ukrainian Security Service on the subject of leaks of information abroad, which takes place here all the time.

The information broadcast by the BBC could not have been obtained by peeping through the door secretly. For that information one has to have a clear view of everything that happens during that sitting. I appeal to the patriots of Ukraine and the defenders of Ukraine—do not do it. Let us use necessary, careful, balanced, justified, and legal channels for providing such information and such guerilla ways [as heard].

BBC, U.S. Correspondents Stripped of Accreditation

LD2210090593 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 0805 GMT 22 Oct 93

[Text] Kiev, 21 Oct—During a break in Ukrainian parliament plenary sittings, a UNIAR correspondent talked with Deputy Albert Korneyev, deputy chairman of the State Sovereignty Commission, who accused BBC correspondent Mykola Veresen of illegally disclosing Defense Minister Vitaliy Radetskyy's report at a closed sitting of the Supreme Council session. Korneyev maintains that "such documents as Ukraine's military doctrine and concept of national security are open and it is no crime to report on them. What is a crime is disclosing a state secret, particularly through such radio stations as the BBC". Mykola Veresen has been stripped of accreditation to sittings of the Ukrainian Supreme Council.

Mariya Mitchel of the 'LOS ANGELES TIMES' and Khrystya Lapichak of the 'NEW YORK TIMES' were also stripped of accreditation.

Supreme Council Replaces Procurator General

LD2110102793

[Editorial Report] Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian at 0800 GMT begins a relay of the Ukrainian Supreme Council morning session being held in Kiev, as noted in referent item.

During the session a resolution is adopted dismissing Procurator general Viktor Shyshkin, and First Deputy Procurator General Yuriy Haysynskyy from their posts and temporarily suspending the procuracy collegium. Parliamentary Speaker Ivan Plyushch reads out the resolution on the dismissal and on the suspension of the procuracy collegium, the text of which says:

"The Supreme Council resolves that:

"First, Viktor Ivanovych Shyshkin be dismissed from the post of Ukrainian procurator general, and Yuriy Aleksandrovych Haysynskyy from the post of first deputy Ukrainian procurator general;

"Second, the plenary powers of the Collegium of the Office of the procurator general in its full composition be suspended temporarily."

Out of 315 deputies registered at the sitting, a majority of 272 deputies vote in favor of the resolution.

The vote on the resolution is then followed by another resolution on the candidacy of Dotsyuk as procurator general, which is also adopted.

Ex-Defense Minister Morozov To Stand in Elections

AU2110175793 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 20 Oct 93 p 1

[DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA News Service report: "Ukraine's Republican Party Started Preparing for Forthcoming Elections"]

[Text] The URP [Ukraine Republican Party] is the first party in Lvov Oblast to start preparations for the forthcoming elections. It has become known to a UNIAN correspondent from sources close to the URP organization in Lvov Oblast that a team of future candidates for deputies has already been formed there. The URP will register its candidates in all 24 electoral districts of Lvov Oblast, but, so far, things are settled in just nine of them. The candidates include the brothers Mykhaylo and Bohdan Horyns, local URP activists Oleh and Mykhaylo Pavlyshyns, and also former defense minister Kostyantyn Morozov.

New Armed Forces Rear Services Chief Appointed

LD2210091393 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Network in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] By order of the Ukrainian defense minister, Lieutenant General Hryhoriy Mykhaylychenko has been appointed to the post of chief of the rear services the Armed Forces. Until now he has occupied the post of chief of the rear services of the Carpathian Military District.

Parliament Approves Armed Forces, Security Regulations

LD2110205593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1642 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksandr Litvinov for TASS]

[Text] Kiev October 21 Tass—A package of regulatory enactments concerning Ukraine's military security was passed by the country's parliament on Thursday afternoon. The package includes a law on preparation for mobilization, a regulation on the temporary suspension of the levying of land tax from army units and testing sites of Ukraine's armed forces.

The parliament approved changes and additions to the laws on military duty and military service, on defence and on the armed forces of Ukraine. It entrusted the standing commission on defence and state security to continue work in conjunction with the Cabinet of Ministers to finalize the draft conceptual framework of Ukraine's national security.

President Leonid Kravchuk took part in the plenary meetings of the parliament and addressed them.

Security Service Officials Accused of 'Provocations'

AU2110180093 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 20 Oct 93 p 6

[Unattributed report: "Who Plants Weapons?"]

[Text] The chief command of the Ukrainian People's Self-Defense [UNSO] has disseminated a statement asserting that Ukraine's Security Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs resort to provocations against the command and members of UNSO in order to compromise the organization. In particular, maintains the UNSO statement, operational agents have recently been secretly placing weapons at the homes of UNSO members, so that later, by arresting and charging them, they could deal with them more easily.

Statistics Show 209 Deaths in Army Since Start of 1993

AU2110175893 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 20 Oct 93 p 1

[Report by the DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA News Service: "They Perish in days of Peace"]

[Text] According to sources close to the Headquarters of Ukraine's Armed Forces, 29 servicemen perished in September; the figure for nine months is 209, which is half a regular military battalion. The main causes of the deaths are automobile accidents, suicides, and violations of safety measures during servicing military technology and munitions.

Space Center Set Up in Dnepropetrovsk

LD2110201493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1755 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By UKRINFORM correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Dnepropetrovsk October 21 TASS—Ukraine's National Space Agency has established a scientific and technical rocket-space centre in the city of Dnepropetrovsk.

In full compliance with a governmental order, the centre was set up on the basis of the Institute for Technical Mechanics of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. It is to engage in the organization of research and designing in the field of rocket technology, as well as in the implementation of the national programme for space exploration.

Another scientific and technical centre of Ukraine's National Space Agency is presently being created in Kharkov.

New Crimean Party Seen as Third Major Force

WS2110111893 Kiev RESPUBLIKA in Ukrainian 7 Oct 93 p 4

[Report by Vyacheslav Savchenko]

[Text] Creation of new parties is being announced almost every week in the Crimea. So far, however, only two parties have been officially registered—the Party of Economic Revival of the Crimea, PEVK, and the Crimean Communist Party, KPK. This reflects quite correctly the real state of things. For all their seeming diversity, political fights boil down to the standoff of these two forces, out of which the PEVK represents a group of the party nomenklatura that lost everything but real power. Its activists and backers include legislative speaker Mykola Bagrov, Prime Minister Borys Samsonov, and his recently appointed deputies.

Thanks to this, the PEVK has eventually consolidated its status as a ruling party. Hardline communists, led by Leonid Grach who rallied the "People's Unity" bloc around himself, do not want to give up power and their convictions. The "People's Unity" also embraces the group RDK [expansion unknown], which was recently on the brink of demise. The freshly baked parties are forced to orientate themselves toward one of the two sides.

And now, a third real political force appears to be entering the Crimea political scene. On 1 October in Kerch, the Union of Support for the Crimean Republic, SPRK, held its Constituent Assembly. This party promises to become centrist in nature, enjoying support coming first of all from the industrial regions of the peninsula—Kerch, Feodosiya, Krasnoperekopsk, and Sevastopol. It also has a solid footing in the Crimean legislature—three Presidium members and the influential faction "Union."

It is thanks to pressure from the SPRK that the privatization program, which they think will do little more than legalize theft of state property, was voted down for the fourth time by the legislature. The SPRK also blocked the law on reorganization of local governments. Notably, the idea of an open-economy regime belongs to this party, and its member Mykola Bagrov along with people from the PEVK offered to carry it out. As Yakov Apter, SPRK leader, said at the Assembly, "we were rebuffed when it came to distributing ministerial portfolios."

It was also said at the congress that the Crimea has to serve rapprochement between Ukraine and Russia. A decision was made to set up initiative groups pressing for a referendum on Ukraine's participation in the ruble zone. In the opinion of delegates, Ukraine should join the economic union and remove custom duties.

SPRK members believe that the Crimea should also seek ethnic consensus, without which any reform makes no sense. The Union's program includes a demand for guaranteed quotas in the legislative elections for the deported peoples. The legislative leader Refat Chubarov, who was present at the congress, expressed his hope that the parliament and the speaker will be able to cooperate and resolve complex problems of ethnic relations. It should be noted that the SPRK is the first Crimean party with which the parliament is willing to cooperate, said its leader.

Democrats Join Fight Against Communists in Elections

MK2110121793 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 3

[Vladimir Skachko report under "Ukraine" rubric: "All Together Against Communists. Democrats Make Public Principles of Joint Election Campaign"]

[Text] The Ukrainian mass media have received a joint statement by 18 political parties, public and trade union organizations calling for cooperation in the elections to the Ukrainian Supreme Council. The statement's authors include such pacesetters of Ukraine's political life as Rukh, the Democratic Party and the Ukrainian Republican Party, the "New Ukraine" association, the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists, the All- Ukrainian Association of Workers Solidarity, the Union of Ukrainian Women, and even the association of housing cooperatives. The emergence of this document can be easily accounted for: "We are aware that the upcoming elections to the Supreme Council on 27 March 1994 will have a historic importance in our state's history. Despite our organizations' differences in platform and charter objectives, we agree that the most serious threat to reforming the Ukrainian state into a democratic society, which will guarantee equal rights, social peace, accord, and people's well-being, would come from the electoral victory by the bloc of pro-imperial and extreme left-wing parties advocating a communist platform." The document on the joint principles of collaboration has been necessitated by the fact that in the conditions of emerging pluralism, "creating a single electoral bloc of democratic parties and organizations, which would nominate a single candidate from the bloc in each electoral district, would be impossible." Proceeding from this premise, representatives of national-democratic, liberal-democratic, and simply democratic organizations agreed on the following joint actions: "We will seek the adoption of a new, democratic election law that would provide for the representation of various political forces in parliament through the mechanism of a proportional or a mixed system; take active part in forming electoral commissions at all levels and see to it that independent observers are present at all polling stations during the elections; by conducting talks and coordinating efforts between the leaders of our organizations we will seek to nominate one single candidate from all the democratic forces or a part of them in some electoral districts." In addition, the democrats established the main principle of joint efforts: In districts where they will not be able to agree on nominating a single democratic candidate, all should abide by the following principle—each campaigns for himself, and all together campaign against communist candidates.

The emergence of this document amounts to one of the first attempts to set up a single anticommunist front, if not an electoral bloc. At the same time, it testifies to the weakness of the Ukrainian democratic forces and their inability to unite themselves—it is too tempting for them to demonstrate both their own political profiles and political performances during the electoral show. In addition, any joint actions of the democrats will prompt the post-communists to take countermeasures aimed at closing their ranks, which is fraught with an upsurge in populist propaganda and is especially dangerous against the backdrop of the people's pauperization. Nor did the democrats take into account that joint actions by many parties against one may elicit the simple human sympathy of the naive Slavic heart for the "pariah." The democrats do not appear to have thought that this sympathy may help the post- communists win extra votes.

Crimea Seen on Road of Independence From Kiev

AU2110162193 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 19 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Where Is the Crimean Republic Going?"]

[Text] Chairman of the Crimean Supreme Council Nikolay Bagrov stated that he and Ukrainian President L. Kravchuk had signed a protocol of commissions. They discussed the need to more actively implement Ukraine's law "On the Division of Powers Between Organs of State Power of Ukraine and of the Crimean Republic" and to intensify the regime of open economy in the autonomous republic. It was decided to create the Crimean Republican Bank and the Crimean Interbank Hard-Currency Exchange, and to allow the Crimean Republic to issue licenses for trading in hard currency. An interbudget agreement will be concluded between the governments of Ukraine and the Crimean Republic. An accord was concluded on the one-channel taxation system, in other words, all the capital will now remain within the autonomous republic. The Crimea will have the right to register offices of foreign firms that function on the peninsula. A system of Customs Control of the Crimean Republic is being created. This program will be implemented by 1 December 1993.

Observers believe that the Crimean Republic is moving, slowly but surely, toward full independence from Ukraine.

Early Contenders for Crimean Presidency Profiled

PM2110165993 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 93 p 3

[Eduard Dolya report: "Crimea Will Also Have a President. Who Will Be Able To Abolish Himself"]

[Text] It is as yet unclear how many candidates will contend for this post. But already scarcely anyone doubts that Crimean Supreme Soviet Chairman Nikolay Bagrov and Crimean Communist Party First Secretary Leonid Grach, who is one of the leaders of the "hardline opposition," will be among the most serious candidates for the presidential post in Simferopol. It is noteworthy that both of the possible competitors for presidential power have occupied the post of first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Crimean Oblast Committee: Bagrov left it in exchange for the post of speaker, while Grach left because of the "vortex of hostile" democratic transformations. But whereas the present head of the Crimean republic is a supporter of the presidential form of rule on the peninsula, his fervent opponent intends to abolish it (by winning an election for the sake of the lightning-fast abolition of the post once won).

The former colleagues' views also differ radically on the basic principles of the formation of the Crimean Republic parliament. Leonid Grach is categorically opposed to giving a quota of seats in the Supreme Soviet to individual nationalities, seeing this as a violation of human rights. But Nikolay Bagrov is in favor of it, believing that this is the only way that representation in the legislative power structures can be guaranteed for the peoples deported from Crimea. The deputies, incidentally, took a long time to agree with their speaker. But Bagrov managed to "secure" quotas for the Crimean Tatars (14 seats in the parliament) and one mandate each for the Armenians, Bulgarians, Greeks, and Germans. Admittedly, for some reason no national electoral districts were obtained for the Karaims and Krymcheks—either because the peninsula is small, or because the peoples themselves are small, and there are only 80 deputies' seats.

In any event the same session scheduled elections to the Crimean Supreme Soviet for 27 March next year, following the presidential election. So it works out that the communists have lost the "first half." And we should not make the mistake of counting Nikolay Bagrov among them. By a decision of the Crimean Communist Party, he, among other "degenerates and betrayers," has been expelled from the Leninist party in both the old and the new style.

Belarus

Shushkevich Comments on Results of Bulgaria Visit

LD2110173693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1423 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Minsk October 21 TASS—Belarus and Bulgaria have agreed to exchange ambassadors in the near future, Belarusian leader Stanislav Shushkevich said.

Commenting on the results of his visit to Bulgaria, Shushkevich, who is the chairman of the Belarusian parliament, said on Thursday that the question about the prospects for the development of the Commonwealth of Independent States was one of the key topics discussed at the talks.

During the visit, Shushkevich met with Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev, Prime Minister Lyuben Berov, parliament speaker Aleksander Jordanov and leaders of parliamentary factions.

The sides signed an inter-state treaty of friendship and cooperation between Belarus and Bulgaria, an agreement on cooperation in education, science and culture, as well as an agreement on trade, economic and transport cooperation and cooperation in the military sphere.

Supreme Soviet Chairman on New Constitution, Government

WS2110114693 Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belarusian 15 Oct 93 p 1

[Report by Valyantsin Zhdanko: "Saligorsk Requests Assistance, Center Advises Counting on Themselves"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Stanislav Shushkevich was not really generous in making promises. Although he pledged to do his best, he emphasized that the solution is not escalating inflation but developing new forms of production and transformation into the market economy.

Stanislav Shushkevich's speech was detailed and merited. However, he did not declare any new approaches and principles that would hint at a correction of his previous position. Only already known statements were voiced. Speaking about the forthcoming session of the Supreme Soviet, he said:

"Many deputies categorically state that a new Constitution will not be adopted. I expect that we will adopt it anyway. What if we don't? Let us draft a new electoral law based on the present Constitution. This means that we will amend the existing law, simultaneously maintaining the majority system. There should be a democratic system: One man—one vote. Since our political movements are not sound enough, we can delay the introduction of a proportional system. ...I believe that regardless of any decisions on the Constitution, we will find a path for establishing democratic foundations for a new society."

In front of the Saligorsk City Council, Stanislav Shushkevich was met by picketers who held in their hands banners demanding the resignation of the present government and the establishment of a coalition. Stanislav Shushkevich replied as follows:

"I have so far not heard of the concept of a coalition government, given that our political movements are weak. If it was a union of clever people I would be very glad. But, if it was a coalition that would result in disagreements and statements on who is right and who is wrong, I do not think that it would be successful. I believe that we should avoid conflicts within the government. All government structures should cooperate peacefully."

Entrepreneurs' Union To Participate in Early Elections

WS2110145193 Minsk DOBRY VECHAR in Belarusian 18 Oct 93 p 1

[Report by Mikhail Valkovski: "Entrepreneurs Are Also Heading There"]

[Text] The other day, the Belarusian Entrepreneurs' Union considered the question of its participation in the forthcoming early elections to the Supreme Soviet.

The entrepreneurs, according to the Union Chairman Karagin, see that the present Supreme Soviet has exhausted itself. Therefore they will take an active part in the elections in all electoral districts, no matter the number of those districts. A detailed electoral program of the Entrepreneurs' Union has not been worked out yet, but the key aspects and the priorities of aims have already been discussed. Among them—support for democracy, rise in prosperity of all Belarusian citizens, active prevention of organized and street crime, support for home enterprises and Belarusian employers, a number of other attractive (if not populist) appeals.

The closer the elections, the greater the number of different forces that take their places at the starting line in the race for deputies' mandates. There is not enough money and interesting business for the entrepreneurs, so they have decided to go for power.

NDPB Demands Action Against Officers' Union

WS2110144993 Minsk DOBRY VECHAR in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Report by RID correspondent Yuriy Leshkevich: "They Demand Pressing Charges Against Officers' Union"]

[Text] The National Democratic Party of Belarus [NDPB] has sent an open letter to Belarusian Attorney General Vasil Shaladonov.

According to the RID information, that step was taken because of "the silence of the Prosecutor's Office in connection with recent actions of some social (but in essence, political) organizations in Belarus," in particular, of "the so-called Officers' Union that operates on the territory of the Republic." The actions of that organization, according to the NDPB opinion, contradict the development of national revival; what is more, they aim at destroying the independence of Belarus, and have an insulting character regarding the Belarusian people and their language and history, and therefore, are illegal.

In connection with this, the party asks Shaladonov "to treat the letter as a motion, and to inform them about the prosecutor's actions in this direction."

Moldova

Snegur Appoints Foreign Minister Tau Ambassador to U.S.

AU2110184993 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1646 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau ROMPRES, 21/10/1993—President Mircea Snegur issued a decree appointing Nicolae Tau ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Moldova to the United States of America, releasing him from the office of foreign minister, MOLDOVA- PRES reports.

Snegur, Sangheli Meet Russia's Chernomyrdin

AU2110191093 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2014 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 20/10/1993—The expected objectives at the negotiations from October 19th of President Mircea Snegur, Premier Sangheli with Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin had mainly an economic character and were accomplished, states the communique of the Presidency. Solutions of annulling excises on exports to Russia, the tax on the value added, of granting credits to buy fuel and the creation of joint ventures, especially in unification were found during the negotiations. President Snegur stated that the success of negotiation will lead to the improvement of the export of agricultural products. Premier Chernomyrdin called negotiations a totally new step towards establishing mutual advantages that are included in the agreement on creation of the Economic Union. It was also decided to report about the economic activity between the states and to elaborate new plans based on mutual advantage. Chernomyrdin also stated that all those involved in military actions on the side of conspirators will be punished according to the law, states the Presidential Press Service.

Russian Prosecutor's Office Denies Tiraspol Talks

PM2110102593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

["Denial from Russian Prosecutor's Office"]

[Text] In recent days a number of mass media, citing statements by officials from the Supreme Soviet and government of the Dniester Region, have published reports claiming that the Russian Prosecutor's Office, bypassing the Republic of Moldova Prosecutor's Office, has entered into talks with the Tiraspol prosecutor's office on questions of joint actions in investigating cases of the dispatch of weapons and the participation of Dniester Region servicemen in the October events in Moscow.

In this connection the Information and Public Relations Center is empowered to state that the Russian General Prosecutor's Office has not entered into any contacts over these questions with the Supreme Soviet or the Dniester Region Prosecutor's Office. The Russian Prosecutor's Office builds all relations to render legal aid and to cooperate, including in the investigation of circumstances affecting the tragic events in Moscow, in strict accordance with the agreement concluded 28 May 1993 between the Russian Federation Prosecutor's Office and the Republic of Moldova Prosecutor's Office. It will continue to be guided by these principles.

Minister of National Security Holds Talks in Moscow

AU2110191393 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2014 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 20/10/1993—Vasile Caimol, Moldova Minister of National Security had a meeting with Evgeniy Primakov, Russian head of the External Service for Investigations, and Nikolai Golushko, Russian Minister of Security, on October 18th and 19th. The exchange of information of mutual interest and the cooperation in fighting terrorism, smuggling, illegal traffic with weapons and drugs were discussed during the meeting. Also, the establishment and blocking of the ways of illegal crossing of Moldovan and Russian borders by citizens from other countries were discussed. The agreement on cooperation will be signed in the closest future.

Russian Commander Reportedly Summoned to Moscow

LD2110162193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1153 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetsky]

[Text] Chisinau October 21 TASS—The commander of the 14th Russian Army stationed in the so-called Dniester Republic, Lieutenant-General Aleksandr Lebed, departed for Moscow on Thursday.

ITAR-TASS learnt at the 14th Army headquarters that the official explanation for the departure was "participation in a meeting at the Russian Defence Ministry".

According to army sources, the leadership of Russian armed forces summoned Lebed for consultations concerning the situation in the Dniester area, which has developed after the tragic October events in Moscow.

Relations between the 14th Army commander and the Dniester Republic leadership have extremely deteriorated recently.

Lebed resigned as deputy to parliament of the unrecognised Dniester Republic due to legislators' unwillingness to approve evidence supplied by the general that Dniester gunmen participated in armed clashes in Moscow on the side of the parliament building defenders.

Despite the fact that the Dniester Republic parliament declined to accept Lebed's resignation, the general, through his representative, handed over his legislator's badge and ID card to parliament speaker Grigoriy Marakutsa on the eve of his departure for Moscow.

Local analysts believe that a speech by Moldovan Foreign Minister Nicolae Tiu at the U.N. General Assembly session, in which he described the presence of the 14th Russian Army in Moldova as the main source of instability in the region and demanded its immediate withdrawal, as one of the reasons for the commander's departure.

The general stressed in an interview with ITAR-TASS on the eve of his departure for Moscow: "The 14th Army will stay in the region as long as it is necessary".

Snegur, Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Discuss Ties

AU2110191293 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2014 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 20/10/1993—Today, the Moldovan President Mircea Snegur had a meeting with Tian Zengpei, Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister. Several aspects of relations between the two states were discussed during the meeting. "Our relations develop as they were planned during the visit of the Moldovan delegation to Peking in autumn 1992," stated the president. A 30 million yen credit granted by China will be used, said Snegur. "We are confident that the relations between businessmen, various ministries and departments of the two states will be significant," added Mircea Snegur. Tian Zengpei stressed that China supports Moldova's efforts for independence and sovereignty. He expressed his confidence that the relations between the two states would be continuously increasing.

Tau, Iranian Ambassador Discuss Ties

AU2110171793 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2014 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 20/10/1993—Today evening, Nicolae Tau, Moldovan Minister of Foreign Affairs, met with the Iranian Ambassador in Chisinau Seyyed Muhajer, states the mass media Direction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). The relations between the two states were discussed. The necessity to find new methods to improve the relations in the changing world conditions were mentioned during the meeting. Tau and Muhajer stated that the two states could find common point of views in their interests concerning different fields. They also pronounced for a more active international cooperation, states the mass media Direction of MFA.

Ukraine's Envoy, CSCE Official Discuss Dniester Conflict

AU2110214093 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2014 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 20/10/1993—Yesterday, the Ukrainian ambassador in Chisinau had a meeting with the head of the CSCE mission in Moldova, Timothy Williams. Aspects about the conflict in the Dniester region were discussed during the meeting. Timothy Williams made a brief report on the activity of the CSCE mission. An exchange of opinions on solving the conflict was made. Yevgeniy Levitski, counselor of the Ukrainian embassy in Chisinau, stated to BASA that the position of the CSCE mission on the solution of the Dniester mostly matches that of Ukraine. "The Dniester conflict should be solved peacefully, by negotiations, and not by force," stated Levitski adding that this is the official position of Ukraine. There must be made other proposals by both sides since Moldova does not accept the position of Tiraspol about a confederation and Tiraspol does not accept Moldova's position, stated Levitski.

Snegur Addresses Dniester Region Inhabitants

PM2110112193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Report by Svetlana Gamova: "Moldovan President Accuses Dniester Region Leadership of Supporting White House"]

[Text] Chisinau—Moldovan President M. Snegur has issued an appeal to the inhabitants of the republic's left-bank regions.

He accused the region's leadership of "specially leading the political dialogue into an impasse, trying to gain time in the hope that people who think like them will soon come to power in Russia, giving them their due for helping them with gunmen and weapons." The president noted that Moldova agrees to continue to talk with those people in the Dniester Region who "are guided by

common sense, understand the full possibility of the situation's deterioration" and are able to assume responsibility for the people's fate at this crucial period for Moldova.

In M. Snegur's opinion the first step on the path of stabilizing the situation could be for the Tiraspol authorities to hand over the Ilashku group, whose trial has begun in the Dniester region, to the republic's constitutional authorities. M. Snegur noted that sentencing these people, who have become political prisoners, is tantamount to a new challenge to Chisinau.

The group mentioned in the address is charged by the Dniester Region law enforcement organs with organizing acts of terrorism on the region's territory before the start of military operations on its territory. The Tiraspol authorities assert that they are trying these people according to Moldova's laws because its legislation forms the basis of the Dniester Region criminal code. Chisinau's demands that the arrested men be transferred to the Moldovan organs are so far remaining unanswered in Tiraspol.

Most likely Tiraspol will not respond either to the call to the region from a number of politicians to take part in the forthcoming parliamentary elections. G. Marakutsa, chairman of the Dniester Region Supreme Soviet, answering a question about this, noted that the Dniester Region's participation in elections to the Moldovan parliament is not ruled out in principle. But the Dniester Region considers it impossible for it to join in the present elections taking place under the sign of the still unrevised constitution in which Moldova figures as a single-nation unitary state.

The sympathies of the region's leadership are on the side of a proposal voiced by the Moldovan social democrats: convening a constitutional assembly and adopting a new constitution which does not rule out the state's structuring on a federative basis.

Meanwhile in his address to the left-bank inhabitants, M. Snegur called the confederation proposed by the region an absurd idea aimed at splitting Moldova.

Dniester Introduces Measures To Restrict Bread Exports

AU2110171893 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2014 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 20/10/1993—The Dniester minister of interior Yuriy Ovsyannikov ordered to search all transport units to limit "the illegal export of bread and other products outside Dniester," say reliable sources from Chisinau. The Dniester militia is compulsed to start investigations in the case economic entities and private persons neglect the orders of Ovsyannikov regarding the sale of products only to those who present their identity cards. The reason for introducing this measures is that "the products in Ukraine and Moldova are much more expensive." Ovsyannikov had forbidden the access of transport means that have radios in Dniester "to avoid the leakage of information about the activity of security and state structures." Militia has to "take these radios from vehicles when crossing the border and return them when leaving the Dniester region."

IMF Proposes Application of 'Shock Therapy'

AU2110191193 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2014 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 20/10/1993—Moldova will face the toughest shock therapy if it accepts the IMF recommendations on the economic financial strategy. Sources close to the Government stated to BASA that the negotiations between the IMF mission and Moldovan Government about the memorandum on the activity of Chisinau executive take place in the locality of Holercani. The document stipulates an increase in the tax rate up to 250 percent, and the decrease in the rate of inflation to 1 percent. According to the memorandum, the prices for thermal energy would be increased by the beginning of November by 4 times, electrical energy by 2.5 times, for bread by 60 percent. The memorandum recommends to annul all fiscal facilities, preferential credits and privileges granted to some categories of citizens. The memorandum was not appreciated the same way by participants in the negotiations. It must be signed tomorrow by representatives of Government and IMF. Experts believe that the position of IMF at these trades is much more hard than at the previous ones—granting credits to Moldova is under the categorical condition of promoting the proposed economic reforms.

FPCD Condemns Repeated Attacks Against Opposition

AU2110213693 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 19 Oct 93 p 3

["Declaration of the Christian Democratic Popular Front" signed by Iurie Rosca, president of the Executive Committee of the FPCD Council]

[Text] A new attack against the opposition in the Republic of Moldova took place on 15 October 1993. Guns were fired at a vehicle belonging to the FPCD [Christian-Democratic Popular Front of Moldova] weekly TARA, in full daylight in Chisinau. The driver, Sergiu Pruteanu, was injured.

The chain of violent actions and threats against the FPCD members carried out only in the past year are known to the public. Although the law enforcement bodies opened a criminal investigation of those cases, not one of them has resulted in calling to account those who use crime as a political weapon and the respective state institutions limited themselves to certain official statements. We hope that this time the investigation bodies will show impartiality and the criminals will end up in a court of justice.

The political rivals of the democratic opposition are incapable of accepting the idea of diversity of options and ideas—something that is natural for a civilized society—and hope they will be able to silence all those who take seriously the need to promote the fundamental principles of democracy.

It is noteworthy that the attack against the collaborators of the TARA editorial office took place precisely when the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova fixed the date of elections and adopted the electoral law. It is obvious that forces hostile to the alternatives promoted by the FPCD did not succeed in eliminating it from the electoral race through a judicial trick and resorted in discouraging the opposition from the very beginning.

The FPCD draws the attention of the public, of human rights organizations, and of diplomatic missions to the atmosphere of intolerance that has been created around the opposition through constant public Moldovan Government attacks against the FPCD and its publication, as well as through actions of violence and intimidation carried out by certain forces who the law enforcement bodies have been unsuccessful in identifying. This situation harms the progress of the Republic of Moldova toward a democratic society in which legality and respect for the citizen, regardless of his political options, prevail.

The Executive Committee of the FPCD Council

President Iurie Rosca

Daily Outlines Platform of Recently Founded Reform Party

AU2110214193 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2014 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 20/10/1993—The newspaper TINERETUL MOLDOVEI (YOUTH OF MOLDOVA) publishes the project of the program of the Party of Progress. The project states that "the general direction in the activity to solve the social problems is to assure equal possibilities to all citizens." The new party will strive to constitute a prosperous society that is possible "by establishing a new economy based on various forms of economic market ownership, rebirth of the interest for work, and advantageous integration in world economy by firm legislative and constitutional guarantees." To achieve political progress the party will strive "to ensure Moldova's sovereignty, independence, and integrity," as well as "to restore the authority of the state power," stressing that "it is necessary to halt [as received] the government's involvement in the political struggle and commercial activity." The Party of Progress pleads for "national reconciliation by respecting and ensuring the rights of all citizens, without ethnic, linguistic, or confessional discrimination, the preservation and affirmation of the cultural identity of ethnic communities, and education for respect for the history and culture of Moldova's citizens."

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev, China's Jiang Zemin Discuss Trade Issues

LD2010162293 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1500 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] On his visit to China, while characterizing negotiations with the head of the Chinese state, President Nursultan Nazarbayev noted the complete concord of opinions on almost all issues under discussion. In his opinion, as from now all aspects of Kazakhstani-Chinese cooperation has an agreed legal basis. To us, relations with China as our great neighbor are of paramount importance. In two years, the volume of export-import transactions between the two countries increased by a factor of 150. Currently, China is Kazakhstan's largest trade partner, said Nazarbayev. Alongside this fact, the president admitted serious problems in trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

First of all, it is the low quality of Chinese goods flooding the Kazakhstan market, and from there to other CIS countries, including Russia. In order to close the access to low-quality produce from China, Almaty had to set high customs duties. Import was reduced by a factor of four. This problem was touched upon in the talks with Jiang Zemin.

Touching upon the discussion of border problems, Nazarbayev stated that China had no territorial claims on Kazakhstan. In 1994 an agreement on the borderlines will be signed, he added.

Nazarbayev Reaches Cooperation Accord With Mongolia

LD2110203893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1645 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent kim Boldokhonov]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar October 21 TASS—Kazakhstan and Mongolia are both seeking to develop stable long-term cooperation in building democratic society and market economies in their countries and pooling efforts to establish durable peace and security in Asia. This was made clear in the course of talks here between Mongolian leader Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat and visiting President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan.

The two leaders stressed the identity of their approaches to the solution of major international problems. Kazakhstan proposed creating a structure and a mechanism of building confidence and security on the Asian continent. This is facilitated objectively by Mongolia's declared aim to turn the country into a nuclear-free zone.

Both leaders agreed to act in concert to achieve the positive solution to the pressing problems both bilaterally and in international organizations.

The presidents exchanged views on the situation in the Commonwealth of Independent States and spoke out in support of democratic reforms in Russia, with which both Mongolia and Kazakhstan have closely cooperated for many years.

Defense Ministry To Establish Caspian Sea Fleet

LD2110130693 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Kazakhstan is planning to set up its own navy in the Caspian Sea. The republic's Defense Ministry told ITAR-TASS that by next year the Pavlodar, Uralsk, and Ust-Kamenogorsk shipbuilding and ship repair yards will start assembling various types of ship for the Caspian fleet.

Cooperation Agreements Reached With Bashkortostan

LD2110114293 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 0000 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] There are no barriers to speeding up economic cooperatioon between Bashkortostan and Kazakhstan. This was the conclusion reached as a result of two days of talks between government delegations in Almaty. On 20 October, an agreement was signed on trade and economic cooperation for the year 1994 by (Anatoliy Koksev) and Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko. The agreement will help to stabilize both countries economies and this will lead to a further deepening of the existing direct ties between the republican enterprises and increasing supplies of goods on a clearing basis. Bashkortostan is in need of Kazakhstan's grain, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, and gas condensate from the Karachaganak deposit. In exchange for that it can send us fuel, petrochemical products, and consumer goods. It was decided that payment will be made in accordance with world and agreed prices. It was decided to set up joint stock companies Kazakhstan-Bashkortostan in Kazakhstan and Bashkortostan, which will be responsible for handling contracts between departments and works of both republics and settling the financial accounts.

Almaty Accommodates Kazakhs Fleeing Afghanistan

LD2110104993 Almaty Radio Almaty World Service in English 1930 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] The Kazakhstani Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been taking urgent measures to deal with the fate of thousands of Kazakh refugees in Iran and Turkey who have fled from Afghanistan due to the recent civil war there. According to official sources, so far about 1,800 Kazakh refugees temporarily displaced in Iran and 1,500 temporarily displaced in Turkey have been moved and accommodated in Kazakhstan.

Demand for New Russian Rubles Outstripping Supply

PM2110100393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[ITAR-TASS report: "Growing Demand for New-Issue Russian Money on Kazakhstan's Black Market"]

[Text] Money changers will give you two or more former Soviet rubles for a Russian one on Kazakhstan's black market. Even so, demand immeasurably exceeds supply.

An express analysis carried out by a number of local mass media shows that some of those who are doing their utmost to acquire the new money are planning either official or private trips to Russia. The banks in Kazakhstan provide virtually no exchange services of this kind. But most of the buyers are people who want to get rid of the old money in good time on the eve of the start of Kazakhstan's entry into the new-issue ruble zone.

Kyrgyzstan

Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani Continues Visit

Holds 2d Round of Talks With Akayev

LD2110113393 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] The second round of talks between the presidents of Iran and Kyrgyzstan was held in Bishkek this morning. The two countries' officials concluded agreements on economic, commercial, and cultural cooperation.

The presidents of the two republics expressed their satisfaction at the trend of the talks held between the officials of the two countries. They expressed optimism about the favorable outlook for relations and the expansion of cooperation.

[Unidentified correspondent, by telephone] Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed his pleasure at the expansion of relations between the two countries. He said the Muslim people of Iran are very willing to deepen their friendship with the Muslim people of Kyrgyzstan. He stated: The Islamic Republic of Iran is prepared to stand alongside the government and people of Kyrgyzstan for the growth and development of that country.

Referring to the independence of Kyrgyzstan and the start of the construction period in that country, the president said: The government and people of Kyrgyzstan are on a difficult road for the construction and development of their country. They should pursue a new form of work, construction, and independence.

He stressed: Stability and calm in the Central Asian countries consitute a prerequisite for the achievement of full independence and the solving of economic problems. The Islamic Republic of Iran is willing to have close cooperation with the countries in the region to expedite the construction of those countries, and will make every effort to reach that important goal.

Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev said in a speech: During Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit more than 10 very important documents on cooperation between the two countries have been prepared. With the implementation of these agreements relations between the two countries are expected to enter a new phase.

Further on Akayev Talks; Accord Signed

LD2110161593 Tehran IRNA in English 1335 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Bishkek, Oct. 21, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and his Kyrgyz counterpart, Askar Akayev, held the second round of talks here Thursday aftrnoon. The two presidents discussed avenues for further cooperation and promotion of Tehran-Bishkek ties.

President Rafsanjani said that the Islamic coutries favour development and progress of Muslim Central Asian republics and added that in post-independence era the Kyrgyz nation should concentrate their efforts on reconstructing their country. Rafsanjani also added that the Bishkek government should reconsider its economic, industrial, cultural and foreign policies and adopt policies different from the past.

The Iranian president, who arrived here yesterday, added that Iran is willing to put its experience and expertise at the disposal of Kyrgyzstan.

Meanwhile President Rafsanjani today inaugurated an Iranian book exhibition at the Iranology Department of National University of Bishkek. The exhibition, organized by the international al-Hoda publishing house, affiliated to Iran's Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, has put on display 4,000 volumes of book in 700 subjects. In a related development an informed source told IRNA that the Bishkek prime minister has offered to sell 2,500 million killo watt surplus electricity to Iran.

President Rafsanjani arrived here Wednesday from Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on the second leg of his 5-nation tour which will also take him to Kazakhstan, Turkmenisan and Azerbaijan.

[Tehran IRNA in English at 1340 GMT on 21 October, in a Bishkek-datelined item, adds the following: "The Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Kyrgyzstan on Thursday inked a memorandum of understanding for cooperation in areas of culture, science, arts and mass media. According to the agreement, the two countries will exchange books, publications, photoes, slides, films and microfilms with cultural, artistic, literary and historical themes in order to acquaint their respective nations with the civilization and customs of each other. Exchange of musical and theatrical groups, cooperation

between the libraries, museums and national archives of the two countries are also envisaged in the letter of understanding.

"The memorandum was signed during a visit of Iranian President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to this Central Asian country which gained its independence following the collapse of the former Soviet Union.

"It also includes cooperation between the Iranian and Kyrgyz news agencies, radio and television stations, provision of facilities for news agencies of the two countires to open bureaux in Tehran and Bishkek, and exchange of information on mass media.

"Under a separate agreement between Iran's Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance and the Kyrgyz Ministry of Information, an Iranian cultural house would soon be opened in Bishkek.]

Meets Other Leaders; More Accords

LD2110195893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Telephone report from Bishkek by correspondent Rohani-Nejad]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Common grounds for economic, commercial, and cultural exchange between the Iran and Kyrgyzstan were determined by the signing of 13 important cooperation documents by the two countries. The agreements were signed tonight by the heads of the two republics and the two countries' officials at the government house in Bishkek. According to the agreements the two countries will cooperate on abolishing diplomatic visas, issuing multi-entry visas, renovating production units, sending machinery to Kyrgyzstan, developing road transportation and the two countries' goods transit, creating customs facilities, forming a joint chamber of commerce, exchanging banking documents, as well as cultural, training, scientific, technical, media and sports exchanges.

Tonight the leaders of the two republics of Kyrgyzstan and the Islamic Republic of Iran spoke at a news conference about their viewpoints regarding the issues discussed and the two countries' relations.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, referring to the actions undertaken by the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for extending economic cooperation with Central Asia, said: The construction of the Sarakhs-Mashhad railway is one of the important acts by the [Iranian] government which is being utilized to revive the silk- route. So far 160 km of the railway have been constructed. Seven contractors are busy carrying out its infrastructural work. The project will be completed in two years at the most.

Mr. Akayev, noting the existing crises in the region said he has discussed that with the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran and believes that the Islamic Republic of Iran, by using its influence and resources, is able to have a role in the settlement of regional crises and the establishment of peace. The Kyrgyz president described the trend of privatization and the reform of the economic structure of the state as very swift and added: So far 27 percent of the public production units have been privatized and this task will be continued with care and speed.

[Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian at 1730 GMT on 21 October adds the following: "President Hashemi-Rafsanjani this afternoon received the Kyrgyzstan's speaker of parliament and prime minister separately. During his meeting with our country's president, the speaker of Kyrgyzstan's parliament called for the Islamic Republic of Iran's assistance to his country. He particularly stressed the need for increasing mutual cooperation within the framework of the Economic Cooperation Organization, ECO.

"Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani pointed to Iran's assistance to the newly independent Central Asian republics and said Kyrgyz officials' collaboration and wisdom are essential for that country's development. During his meeting with Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Kyrgyzstan's prime minister called for the speedy implementation of the agreements reached between the two countries. He particularly stressed his country's willingness for exchanges in the fields of energy, electricity and agriculture."]

Meets Ulema Association Members

LD2110102093 Tehran IRNA in English 0924 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Bishkek, Oct. 21, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Wednesday [20 October] met members of the association of ulema, thinkers and artists of Kyrgystan on the first day of his visit here.

The president who arrived here Wednesday on the second leg of his 5-nation Central Asia tour, expressed hope that Muslim nations, supported by ulema, scholars and artists, would live in peace and prosperity.

President Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzystan who was also present in the meeting said Iran has greatly contributed to the promotion of world culture.

He underlined the active role Iran has played in the establishment of friendly ties among Muslim nations and expressed hope that President Rafsanjani's visit would further boost Tehran- Bishkek ties.

Meanwhile, President Rafsanjani was awarded honorary membership of the association in which President Akayev is also a member.

Later in the day, the two presidents held private talks at the presidential palace.

President Rafsanjani visited Uzbekistan on the first leg of his trip and is to visit Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Azerbaijan during his 12-day tour.

Inaugurates New Embassy

LD2110111693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Our country's president inaugurated the new premises of the Islamic Republic of Iran's embassy in Bishkek this morning. The national anthems of the two countries were played in the inauguration ceremony, which was also attended by the president of Kyrgyzstan. Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: I hope the Government of Kyrgyzstan will always fully trust this embassy with friendship and sincerity. Nothing else can guarantee such a trust.

The president of Kyrgyzstan then called the opening of the Iranian Embassy building in Kyrgyzstan a unique event in the history of his country. He considered this development as an indication of stable and friendly relations between the two countries.

Receives 'Highest Award'

LD2110164293 Tehran IRNA in English 1303 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Bishkek, Oct. 21, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani of Iran, here Thursday received the highest award and an honorary doctorate degree from the National University of Kyrgyzstan.

Rafsanjani, currently visiting this Central Asian Republic heading a high-ranking delegation, received the honorary degree for his efforts to safeguard Islamic principles and for his cultural and scientific activities including writing several books.

Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev, the chancellor and professors of the National University of Kyrgyzstan were also present at the ceremony.

Later on, President Rafsanjani accompanied by his Kyrgyz counterpart inaugurated the Islamic Republic's Embassy in Bishkek.

In a brief speech, President Rafsanjani termed the opening of the Iranian mission in the Kyrgyz capital as a "great event" in the history of two countries.

Also speaking at the ceremony, the Bishkek mayor expressed hope that the opening of Iran's Embassy will help further broaden relations between the two countries.

Meets Muslim Leaders, Holds News Conference

LD2110205393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1934 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Maynayev]

[Text] Bishkek October 21 TASS—Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani attended an evening prayer in the Bishkek mosque and had a conversation with Moslem clergy of Kyrgyzstan to wind up the second day of his official visit to Bishkek on Thursday.

The two countries have signed a package of thirteen documents, which fall into four blocks - on the development of trade relations, on the use of Iranian communication lines by Kyrgyzstan, on humanitarian cooperation and on a mechanism of executing the aforementioned agreements.

Under the trade agreements, Kyrgyzstan will supply Iran with products of animal breeding, flax, cotton articles and products made of glass and metal.

Iran has issued a mall [as received] credit for working out a project for the supply of 300-400 megawatt of electricity via the Turkmen city of Mary to the Khorosan Province. Tehran will deliver oil products, food, medicine and farm machinery to Kyrgyzstan. In the perspective, Kyrgyzstan hopes to get a credit from the Islamic Bank for building a number of hydroelectric stations on the river Naryn.

The two presidents told a joint press conference after signing the documents that they were pleased with the visit and confident that cooperation between Iran and Kyrgyzstan had wonderful prospects.

Tajikistan

CIS Coalition Forces Kill 70 Guerrillas in Clashes

LD2110095493 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0900 GMT 21 Oct 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] We have just received an Interfax report. CIS coalition forces in Tajikistan have inflicted the first combined air and artillery strike on guerrillas of the Islamic opposition. The guerrillas were attacked when they tried to cross the River Pyanj from Afghanistan into Tajikistan, in the area of the 12th border post of the Moskovskiy border troops detachment. During the operation about 70 guerrillas were killed. Dozens have been wounded. However, small groups of guerrillas have dispersed into the hills. Combing of the border area has begun in order to find and neutralize them.

Official Refutes Report

LD2110193393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1743 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] The head of the information and analysis department of the Russian Border Guards' headquarters in Tajikistan, Colonel Vladimir Maslivets, dismissed the reports that 70 opposition commandos were killed during an operation near the 12th border post of the Moscow detachment carried by ITAR-TASS today.

Maslivets pointed out he did not meet with any correspondent from ITAR-TASS on October 21 and expressed his amazement as to the reference to his name.

The officer also said that the military operation against groups of the Tajik Islamic opposition, fortified near the

12th border post in early October, was accomplished not on Thursday as was reported by ITAR-TASS, but on Monday, October 18. During the operation, all units, including Russian Border Guards' 201th Infantry Division, Tajik police and security troops, checked sites of the supposed location of the enemy and combed the area from the 12th border post to the very border line.

The figure of 70 rebels killed in the operation is not true to life, according to Maslivets. In any case, the Russian Border Guards did not have information as to the number of casualties.

As for the attempt to cross the border river of Pyandzh by opposition groups yesterday night, Maslivets declined to name the exact figure of victims. To halt the trespass, the CIS coalition forces, for the first time, used heavy artillery and combat planes. Maslivets said a more or less exact figure will be given after the commander of Russian border guards in Turkmenistan, General Chechulin, is back from the scene. He said the general will "call a spade a spade."

Armed Opposition Fighters From Afghanistan 'Expelled'

LD2210072693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0607 GMT 22 Oct 93

[By TIA "Khovar" correspondent Negmat Ochilov for TASS]

[Text] Dushanbe, 22 Oct—Today a combat operation to neutralize a large group of opposition armed fighters and mojahedin who invaded Shurobodskiy rayon of Tajikistan from Afghanistan on 2 October has finally been completed. They were expelled from the territory of the republic by the republic's government forces and of the Russian frontier guards. This was reported to the correspondent of the "Khovar" Tajik news agency at the Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on Wages, Pensions

LD2110220193 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 0500 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Decree issued by the Tajikistani Supreme Soviet Presidium; date not given]

[Excerpts] Decree of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the Republic of Tajikistan on increasing the minimum wage, the salaries of employees in budget enterprises and organizations, pensions, allowances, and on scholarships.

Taking into consideration the constant price rises, and having the purpose of enhancing the social security of workers, as well as all sections of the low-income population in the conditions of rising costs, the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the Republic of Tajikistan decrees:

1. As of 1 October 1993 the minimum wage will be fixed at 8,000 rubles [R] per month in all fields of the national economy of the Republic of Tajikistan.

2. As of 1 October 1993 the (?amount of wages) and the present (?rate of wages) of employees of the enterprises and organizations in public health services, education, science, culture, law- enforcement bodies, procurator offices, administrative bodies and other organizations who receive their salaries from the state budget, including military servicemen of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Tajikistan, the National Security Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan, and troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan should be doubled, in proportion with the increase in minimum wage, while preserving their present difference.

3. As of 1 October 1993 the minimum pension, based on age, in the case of [words indistinct] service, which is essential for a full pension, should be raised by up to R12,000 per month.

4. As of 1 October 1993 the amount of monthly allowances for children under 16 years of age and for students under 18 who do not receive scholarships, is fixed at 12.5 percent of the minimum wage.

5. The amount of wages having a regional coefficient or a coefficient for high altitude and desert, should be fixed at twice the amount of the minimum wage.

6. The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan should assess the issue of fixing [word indistinct] wages, and the wages of some categories of servicemen of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Tajikistan, the National Security Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan and the troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan according to special military ranks.

The (?Council of Ministers) should take measures to provide social welfare for these categories of military servicemen, taking into account the new [word indistinct] wages. [passage omitted on instructions to implement this decree]

[Signed] Imamali Rahmonov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan, city of Dushanbe [Dated] 19 October 1993

'Unabating Flow' of Russian-Speakers Want To Emigrate

PM2110085393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[INTERFAX report: "Unabating Flow of Emigrants from Tajikistan"]

[Text] The flow of Russian-speaking citizens who want to leave Tajikistan to go to other CIS countries is not decreasing despite the relative stabilization of the internal situation in this Central Asian republic.

This was said by Vladimir Khrulev, head of the Consular Department at the Russian Embassy in Dushanbe. Judging by what he said, around 5,000 people have applied for Russian citizenship in the past six months. The majority of these, V. Khrulev noted, are servicemen and members of their families.

Armenia

Yerevan Accepts UN Resolution on Nagorno-Karabakh

NC2110174593 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Statement issued by the Foreign Ministry; date not given]

[Text] The Armenian Republic Foreign Ministry assesses highly the UN Security Council's continued efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The Armenian Foreign Ministry in particular welcomes the UN Security Council's endorsement—which is clearly and unequivocally motivated by a desire to halt the bloodshed and settle the conflict through peace talks—of the CSCE Minsk Group's schedule on urgent measures for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 822 and 853.

The schedule must define the phased and reciprocal implementation of the measures for the stabilization of the cease-fire and the lifting of the blockades, thus ensuring the withdrawal of troops from the recently occupied territories.

Armenia fully supports the UN Security Council position to resolve all the remaining problems through peace talks and within the framework of the Minsk process.

We express particular satisfaction in connection with the fact that in welcoming and endorsing the 28 September schedule, the UN Security Council recognizes the leadership of Nagorno-Karabakh as a party to the conflict.

We also welcome the recognition of the special role of the Russian Federation in this resolution, the collective call for assistance to the humanitarian efforts in the region that places special responsibilities on the Turkish Government, the continued presence of the UN within the Minsk conference and the closer cooperation between the UN and the CSCE, and the call for restraint to prevent the internationalization of the conflict.

As before, Armenia considers unacceptable any expression in the resolution that attempts to predetermine the outcome of the Minsk conference. The CSCE Minsk process, which has found unreserved support with this resolution, is based on the universal agreement that the political status of Nagorno-Karabakh should be determined through the talks at the Minsk conference. Armenia's agreement to the talks being held within the framework of the CSCE's Minsk process for the settlement of the problem is contingent upon the acceptance of this principle. In our opinion any expression or action that predetermines the outcome of the conference contradicts that principle and undermines and dismantles the peace process.

The Armenian Government accepted the schedule on 6 October, hoping that the principle sides to the conflict—Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan—would do the same. We are pleased at the Nagorno-Karabakh leadership's active participation in the Minsk conference and at its constructive reply to this schedule, which allows us to assume that the position of the sides are (?converging) even more.

Nevertheless, the Armenian Republic Foreign Ministry expresses its deep concern at Azerbaijan's rejection of the schedule. This time around, the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry has adopted an even more fruitless and hard position by reneging on its previous positions, which in themselves had created difficulties during the Moscow and Paris parts of the Minsk group talks. The present position of Azerbaijan gives rise to serious concern that Azerbaijan has in effect not renounced its dangerous intention to resolve the problem by military means.

The Armenian Republic Foreign Ministry expresses the hope that Azerbaijan will bring its position in line with UN Security Council Resolution 874 and will act as a reliable partner at the peace talks.

Government Denies Troops Dispatched to Georgia

NC2110161993 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 21 Oct 93

["Text" of statement issued by Press Service of the Armenian president; date not given]

[Text] Certain media sources have reported that Armenian units have been dispatched to Georgia in response to the appeal made by Georgian leader Shevardnadze and that they have already started taking part in operations. These reports actually mention specific subunits.

The press service of the Armenian president declares that these reports are not true. The Armenian leadership is still examining Georgian leader Shevardnadze's appeal to Russia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan for the joint protection of the communications routes.

Authorities Reportedly Impose Curfew in Stepanakert

LD2110142293 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] According to Interfax, the authorities in Nagorno-Karabakh have imposed a curfew in Stepanakert, along with stricter regulation of people's movement in and out of the town. Efforts to maintain public order are being stepped up. These measures have been adopted following a worsening crime situation in Nagorno-Karabakh's administrative center.

Official Denies Curfew Imposed

NC2110174493 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1800 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] Speaking at the meeting of the Republic's Aktiv, Colonel Vahram Khorkhoruni, deputy interior minister

of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR], denied reports on the alleged imposition of a curfew in the NKR by the State Defense Committee.

He said that there is no need to impose a curfew in the NKR. These reports might be referring to the war situation measures introduced last year by the NKR Supreme Council. Accordingly, the streets will be patrolled at any time of the day when all the vehicles will be inspected, citizens' identity cards checked, and the entrance and exit of individuals and vehicles to and from Nagorno-Karabkh during night hours regulated.

In general, Khorkhoruni said that these are measures aimed at preventing crimes, detaining deserters, and establishing law and order in the entire territory of Karabakh.

Moscow Businessman's Bid for Presidency 'Premature'

PM2110161593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 6

[Sergey Bablumyan report: "Will Armenia Have Its Own Kirsan Ilyumzhinov?"]

[Text] Yerevan—An interview with the well-known Moscow entrepreneur Serzh Dzhilavyan [name as transliterated] published in the opposition newspaper GOLOS ARMENII has become the sensation of the hour in Yerevan. A businessman with no financial difficulties, he is the first to say openly that he is willing, given certain circumstances, to become president of Armenia.

"I am not hankering after power; I can accept it only as a political commission from the people, a great burden, a source of tremendous responsibility to them and the whole world," Serzh Dzhilavyan said.

However, before making this statement he harshly criticized Armenia's authorities, accusing them of incompetence, intellectual narrow-mindedness, and other sins quite sufficient for them to quit the political scene. As one argument in favor of this decision Serzh Dzhilavyan recalled that the Armenian leadership had ostentatiously rejected his repeated offers of assistance that might ease the hardship of his compatriots' lives.

In order to imagine the nature and scale of Serzh Dzhilavyan's proposed actions, I will cite just some of them. They include spending money to restore the Armenian AES [nuclear electric power station], to build an international airport on Dzhilavyan's home ground in the city of Stepanavan, to fund the state's "Winter" program costing $80-100 million, and many other equally impressive schemes.

However, the day after the interview was published the Armenian Government press service expressed its bewilderment at Serzh Dzhilavyan's statements. This bewilderment stems from the total lack of any official messages from the Moscow millionaire to the government, automatically canceling any charges against the Armenian leadership which, it transpires, itself expressed willingness to accept Dzhilavyan's financial involvement in the reconstruction of the Armenian AES but has not received an answer.

As for Armenian assembly chairman [as published] Serzh Dzhilavyan's application for the job of the republic's supreme leader which has somehow found its way into political orbit, observers note that it is still premature to discuss it.

Citing Radio Liberty, the local NOYAN TAPAN agency reports: Levon Ter-Petrosyan has said that he may run for a second term, but only if he is sure of victory. We would remind you that the next presidential election is due to be held in 1996. It is quite possible, however, that it could be brought forward once a new constitution is adopted. But it does not follow from this that the president's confidence of victory can be shaken.

Number of Civil Servants To Be Cut by 13.5 Percent

NC2210105393 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1349 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Yerevan, 21 Oct (ARMENPRES)—The number of employees in the republic's executive bodies will be reduced by 13.5 percent by the end of the year. There has already been a 7.7-percent cut, according to a statement by Armenian Prime Minister Grant Bagratyan at the extraordinary session of the Supreme Council on 20 October.

Azerbaijan

Georgian Appeal for Military Assistance 'Not Received'

NC2010153193 Baku TURAN in English 1146 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Azerbaijani Government Has Not Answered the Appeal of Eduard Shevardnadze Concerned Providing Military Assistance to Georgia"—TURAN headline]

[Text] Baku, October 20, (TURAN)—Azerbaijani Government has not received official appeal of Georgian guidance concerned providing assistance to this country in connection with developments in the western part of Georgia, TURAN agency quoted Chief of Information Department of Foreign Ministry Rovshan Dzhamshidov as saying.

As it is known, October 18 Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze made a request to the governments of Russia, Azerbaijan and Armenia for providing military and another assistance to Georgia.

As TURAN agency had been credibly informed, official Baku considers variants of providing Georgians with fuel, tents and transport.

As one high-rank official of the country speaking on condition of anonymity told Azerbaijan's providing (?military) assistance to Georgia would (?represent) interference into internal affairs of neighbouring state.

Reports on Decision Said 'Premature'

NC2210085693 Baku TURAN in English 1359 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Baku, October 21, (TURAN)—The reports running, that the units of the Azeri army will [provide] protection of Poti-Tbilisi railroad in cooperation with the Russian and Armenian units are premature, the head of the press-center of the Azeri Defense Ministry Azad Isa-Zadeh told TURAN agency. [According] to his words, the participation of the Azeri troops in this is impossible, as the political leadership of Azerbaijan have not made any decision on this matter yet.

Baku Considers UN Karabakh Resolution 'Unacceptable'

PM2110093793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Sokhbet Mamedov report: "Azerbaijan Does Not Consider Itself the Defeated Side"]

[Text] Baku—The UN Security Council has adopted its third resolution (No. 874) on settling the conflict in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Unlike the two previous resolutions (incidentally, Azerbaijan approved these), No. 874 contains certain provisions which may exert a slowing down effect on the process of settling the conflict. This notably applies to Point 3 of the resolution, which speaks of the "revised schedule of urgent measures to implement UN Security Council Resolutions 822 and 853."

"This document," Vafa Guluzade, the republic's state adviser for questions of foreign policy, stated, "like the proposal to convene the CSCE Minsk Conference 2 November, came as a surprise to us. And at the same time, we found it unacceptable because the new schedule is not fully in line with the principles of the CSCE, or the mandate elaborated as the basic condition for the preparations for and the holding of the Minsk meeting. UN Security Council Resolutions 822 and 853 envisage the unconditional withdrawal of Armenian troops from the occupied Azerbaijani territories. However, in violation of this, the new schedule places a number of conditions before Azerbaijan. For example, the lifting of blockades from railroad lines and highways, the opening up of the gas pipeline, and so on. At the same time no measures are envisaged to liberate the territories seized by armed forces."

For this reason, having expressed a categorical objection, the Azerbaijani delegation at the meeting in Paris viewed the "new schedule" as "an attempt to treat Azerbaijan as the defeated side." And in his letter to Mario Rafaelli, chairman of the CSCE Minsk Conference, Foreign Minister G. Gasanov unequivocally stressed that the meeting in the Belarusian capital "may take place only after the full and unconditional liberation of the occupied territories."

It is interesting that this letter was sent on the eve of the Security Council sitting, but nevertheless could not influence the course of the adoption of Resolution 874. But this does not at all mean that Azerbaijan's opinion has been ignored. As we have found out from reliable sources, the present CSCE chairman will come to Baku 25 October in order to familiarize himself in detail with Azerbaijan's position before the next sitting of the Minsk group in Rome.

Army Reportedly Launches Offensive in South Karabakh

LD2110212793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2012 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] The Nagorno-Karabakh headquarters told INTERFAX that Azerbaijani formations, backed up with combat vehicles, launched an offensive in the south of Nagorno-Karabakh today at about 16:00. The headquarters said the Nagorno-Karabakh forces still withstood the enemy's pressure.

Nagorno-Karabakh units stationed near Mardakert, Gadruta and Fizuli were shelled last night. There were no casualties reported. As all the days before, the Nagorno-Karabakh units refrained from response actions. Their military intelligence says the Azerbaijani army is manning its units and accumulating combat vehicles on the north eastern and south fronts.

CSCE Requests Facts on Cities 'Under Occupation'

NC2210084593 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televizivasi Television Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] The Foreign Ministry press service reported that Mario Rafaelli, chairman of CSCE Minsk conference, has sent a letter to Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Gasan Gasanov. In reply to Gasan Gasanov's 16 October letter, Mario Rafaelli requested that Azerbaijan submit facts to him on the number of cities under occupation in Zangelanskiy and Kazakhskiy rayons and on their population. Rafaelli indicated that he wants to bring these facts to the attention of the nine Minsk Group countries.

In a reply letter to Mario Rafaelli, Gasan Gasanov said that the absence of such facts at the Minsk Group is astonishing in view of the fact that the representatives of the CSCE Minsk Group and other diplomats who came here for this purpose have visited the conflict zone many times and are (?familiar) with the local conditions. On many occasions they were provided with facts relating to the occupation.

The full text of the press service statement will be published in the press.

Turkish Envoy Comments on Baku's Conflict With Armenia

NC2210103493 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] In enumerating the real sources of threats to world peace during her visit to the United States, Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller specifically pointed to Armenia's aggression against Azerbaijan, likened it to the Bosnian tragedy, and indicated that one-sided efforts to restore peace in the Caucasus are unacceptable.

The press service of the Azerbaijan president issued a statement today noting that the official statements by the Turkish prime minister show that its orientation toward Azerbaijan occupies one of the top places in the foreign policy of that country. More than ever, Turkey is uneasy with Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan because of its negative impact on Turkey's security and interests.

Our correspondent Muga Elbugar Nursadik has interviewed the Turkish Ambassador to our country, Altan Karamanoglu.

[Begin recording] [Karamanoglu, in Turkish] Naturally, such tensions in the region, particularly the on-going war, makes the neighboring countries uneasy. Consid-ering the well-known relations between Turkey and Azerbaijan, who share common racial roots, language and religion, these acts against Azerbaijan naturally upset Turkey quite a lot. From the standpoint of our security, whenever such things happen in the region there is a danger that they might spread—that is, there is a danger that they might engulf other countries. There-fore, a remedy should be found as soon as possible. With this in mind, from the very start we have been exerting, and will exert, every effort in this direction.

[Nursadik] When meeting with Bill Clinton in Wash-ington she said that a mechanism should be worked out jointly with the United States for the resolution of this problem. What concrete steps does Turkey intend to take?

[Karamanoglu, in Turkish] It is not possible for one single state or country to resolve the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict. This problem can only be solved through initiatives within international organizations and with joint efforts by a number of states. That is why this issue has been referred to the CSCE and the UN. As you know, the CSCE held a meeting in Rome recently. A remedy is being sought to this problem. This is not a problem that can be solved by a single state; that is how we look at it. On this issue our ties with the United States are quite good. As you know, Turkey, the United States, and Russia prepared a schedule which we wanted to implement, but then certain obstacles arose and we could not implement it. But, we still insist on that schedule; we want it to be implemented in order to relieve the Azerbaijani people of this hardship and difficulty as soon as possible. [end recording]

Contract Signed for Kazakhstan Natural Gas

NC2210062493 Baku TURAN in English 0859 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Baku, October 21, (TURAN)—The state com-pany Azergaz signed a contract with the state gas com-pany of Kazakhstan on the supply of 500 million cubic meters of gas to Azerbaijan on clearing, in exchange to oil products and equipment till the end of 1993.

According to the contract the price of 1 thousand cu. m. of gas will cost Azerbaijan $10 U.S. cheaper than Turk-menian gas.

As the first vice-premier of the company Aydin Amanov told TURAN agency the price of gas has managed to decrease due to the shortening of the way of shipping to 1200 km. The Kazakhstani pipe- line is situated more closer. But Amanov refused to make public the sum of the contract. This is the secret of the company, he said.

Together with this, TURAN agency found out that the price of Kazakhstani gas will be almost a half lower than the level of the international prices.

The contract also envisages gas supplies in 1994 too. Its volume will be defined later.

According to the statistics of Azergaz company the Azeri and Turkmenian gas together could satisfy the needs of the repubic only to 55 [percent] and even Kazakh gas could not remove the problem.

The situation will improve after Pennzoil Company realizes its project on Caspian gas field exploration. The company intends to produce 2 billion cu. m. of gas per year on Guneshli field.

Yearly gas needs of Azerbaijan make 17 billion cu. m. The republic itself produces 6 billion cu. m. and receives 3.6 billion cu. m. from Turkmenia.

Georgia

Shevardnadze Discusses Present Situation

LA2110161793 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1305 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Report by Gid'on Remez on telephone interview with head of state Eduard Shevardnadze in Tbilisi, by Isabella Ginor in Jerusalem on 21 October]

[Text] Speaking to us today, Shevardnadze, sounded weary and upset, but quite determined. Gamsakhurdia, who according to Shevardnadze is assisted by merce-naries and arms from the Muslims of the northern Caucasus as well as Kazakhs from Russia, did not heed Shevardnadze's calls to unite and put an end to the rift.

On the contrary, Shevardnadze said, Gamsakhurdia's men have only expanded their attacks, which is why we have no choice but to stop them, and later push them out of Georgian territory and restore the state's unity. Unity

seems farther away than ever today. According to him, some Georgian military units have crossed over to Gamsakhurdia's side.

We asked Shevardnadze: In view of the current level of hatred, do you not fear for your own home town, Lanchkhuti, which yesterday was one of the battle theaters?

We recaptured the place before they had a chance to celebrate their victory Shevardnadze said, never mentioning Gamsakhurdia by name. My concern, however, is not for my childhood memories. The rebels have caused severe damage throughout the country. For example, in the port of Poti, they stole all our food supplies, kept there for the entire nation. They took 5,000 metric tons of sugar, expensive export goods, and foreign currency. After this, and even after his withdrawal yesterday, there will be no compromise with Gamsakhurdia, Shevardnadze said. He is a pure fascist. I have always sought compromise and agreement even at the price of concessions, Shevardnadze says, but with him it is impossible.

Shevardnadze made concessions recently, when his situation got worse—first with the separatists in Abkhazia, and now with Gamsakhurdia. Contrary to his past opposition, he added Georgia to the CIS. According to him, Russia promised nothing in return, not even the deployment of Russian troops along the railways—which he asked for and received yesterday—to face Gamsakhurdia threats. These agreements were ready a long time ago, Shevardnadze said. They are about economic cooperation with Russia and other pro-Soviet republics. The matter has now simply become essential, Shevardnadze said, but the agreements were ready a long time ago.

Unlike Shevardnadze, many Georgians regard this as a new disguise for Russian imperialism, the beginning of a Russian takeover of Georgia all over again. Reactions, Shevardnadze admitted, were mixed. In the numerous meetings he held, he heard the support of the Georgian people for him and his moves. He believes some 75-80 percent of the Georgian people are on his side. Among his interlocutors, Shevardnadze first mentions the police. This may sound odd, but it could be a hint regarding the reported arrests of people who oppose his decision to join the CIS. Even in the parliament, which used to strongly oppose this move, currently there is a clear majority in favor of the decision.

We asked Shevardnadze: Do you trust the Russians? Is there no desire in the Russian Army to take revenge on you for your part in the destruction of the Soviet empire as the former Soviet foreign minister?

Indeed, my best friends in the Russian Parliament did just, that, the Georgian leader claimed, which cost my country dearly. In saying this, he probably means the charges that the Russians instigated the Abkhaz uprising. According to Shevardnadze, they later pretended to be an honest broker, and disarmed the Georgians during the cease fire they forced on us. This secured the separatists' victory.

Nevertheless, Shevardnadze continued, Rutskoy, Khasbulatov, and (Makashov) have disappeared from the Russian scene, and I hope that our relations with their country will be purged of past sins. I do not fear that the Russian Army deployment along our railways will be a rerun of the past when armies of the Russian czars took advantage of internal strife in Georgia to conquer our land. Most of those Russian units are stationed here anyway, Shevardnadze said. If there is a need for several additional Russian units, it is no tragedy. The most urgent problem is to get transportation running. If the Russians help us with this, we will be able to deal with the Gamsakhurdia counterrevolution ourselves.

We asked Shevardnadze: In view of the Russian intentions, there was an attempt by the United States to help Georgia, until a CIA official who was sent to train Shevardnadze's bodyguards was murdered last summer. Do you not feel betrayed by the West?

No, he said, the West is doing the best it can. Several hours ago, I received a very moving letter from President Clinton expressing support for our efforts and attempts to institute democratization in Georgia.

We asked Shevardnadze: With all due respect to letters, you must need more tangible assistance, do you not?

Yes, Shevardnadze agreed. Georgia is facing shameful hunger. If you add to this the events of the past several weeks, the result is a disaster. We now have 200,000 refugees, the entire Georgian population of Abkhazia which was deported from there. This is genocide and ethnic purification. Even the fascists did not do what those separatists have done. The refugees have no shelters, they lack minimal human conditions, there is a serious shortage of food, and there are no warm clothes for the coming winter. This is about survival and the rescue of Georgia in general. Shevardnadze appealed this morning to the Georgian community in Israel, and Israel at large, to help the refugees.

Shevardnadze was asked: Can we ask a personal question? When you were the big Soviet boss of Georgia, you had no difficulty in keeping order. Now, the state simply does not follow your orders. How do you explain this?

Shevardnadze replied that this is due to the complex times in which we live, where Georgian society must find its way in a complex and confusing economic crisis, coupled with negative influences of foreign forces—the reactionary forces in Russia. In hindsight, however, he does not regret leaving the top of the international political scene and going back to this miserable little corner or that he did not set up for himself a respectable research institute like his colleague Gorbachev. He said: I knew very well where I was going. I knew it was going to be difficult and that it all might end with my personal destruction, which yesterday seemed very close. Nevertheless, Shevardnadze said, I was and am willing to face anything for my country, to rescue Georgia and its people. If I succeed, I will be the happiest person on earth.

Zviadist-Government Fighting Continues in West

Government Launches Large-Scale Offensive

AU2110111393 Paris AFP in English 1107 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Kutaisi, Georgia, Oct 21 (AFP)—Georgian Government troops launched a large-scale offensive Thursday aimed at reconquering the entire territory seized in the past three weeks by rebel forces loyal to former President Zviad Gamsakhurdia, Georgian officials said here.

"The attack began at 5:00 a.m. (0200 GMT) with tanks and artillery and we will take back Khoni today," said the mayor of Kutaisi, Teimuraz Shashaishvili following a meeting with high-ranking military officials.

An earlier report stating that government troops had seized three strategic towns, including the Black Sea port of Poti proved false.

Wednesday, three columns of Russian armoured cars arrived on the outskirts of Kutaisi as Moscow ordered its forces to defend a strategic east-west railway.

Dzhaba Iosseliani, the man Georgian leader Eduard Shevaradnadze put in charge of the emergency defence preparations, said the Russian units seemed to act independently of the Georgian forces.

In Moscow, the Russian Foreign Ministry said Russian troops would be deployed in a "peace-keeping" capacity along with units from Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan to protect the Poti-Baku railway that serves the capitals of all three countries, ITAR-TASS reported.

Government-held Kutaisi, Georgia's second city, lies on the railway line.

The Russian Foreign Ministry said the deployment could not be seen as interference in Georgia's internal affairs as it was being undertaken at the request of the Tbilisi government.

The Russian deployment follows Shevardnadze's making a desperate plea for military help on television Monday night.

In Georgia, government troops recaptured the Black Sea port of Poti "practically without resistance" as well as Lanchkhuti and Khoni, two towns along the strategic highway from Poti in the west to Tbilisi in the east, the Georgian Interior Ministry said, quoted by INTERFAX news agency.

State Troops Recapture Khoni

LD2110103393 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0900 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Major Soso Margishvili, the head of the press service of the Georgian Defense Ministry, informed CONTACT news agency at 1130 that at 0800 this morning government troops carried out an offensive on Khoni; after a short battle they occupied the town of Khoni. Loti Kobalia's armed units left Khoni in confusion and dispersed in Martvili rayon [formerly Gegechkori].

The situation is unchanged on other sections of the front.

Situation in Kutaisi Reportedly Quiet

LD2110112293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1108 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By GIA for TASS]

[text] Kutaisi October 21 TASS—The situation in Kutaisi last night was reported to be quiet.

A correspondent of the GEORGIAN INFORMATION AGENCY reported that reinforcements are arriving in the city and that city residents feel more safe after a series of successful operations carried out by government troops.

No combat operations are reported in the town of Ozurgeti and the situation in the town is controlled by police forces, the GEORGIAN INFORMATION AGENCY reported. Automobile traffic has not been resumed yet in the direction of towns of Poti and Lanchkhuti, the same source said.

Chokhatauri Reportedly Quiet

LD2110121493 Tbilisi IBERIA in Georgian 1110 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Chokhatauri 21 Oct.—IBERIA news agency was informed by Irakli Kuchava, the deputy chairman of the Chokhatauri Rayon Government, at 1200 today that Chokhatauri is quiet and government troops control the situation.

According to Irakli Kuchava, at about 0900 certain confusion could be observed among armed units loyal to Gamsakhurdia, which are stationed near the village of Dapnari. The units are presumably preparing for redeployment.

Zviadists Still Occupy Poti, Lanchkhuti

LD2110122193 Tbilisi IBERIA in Georgian 1110 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Ozurgeti, 21 Oct—An IBERIA correspondent contacted Davit Kopaleishvili, the deputy chairman of the Ozurgeti rayon government, at 1200 and was told that it is relatively quiet in the rayon and no excesses have been observed. Ozurgeti is controlled by government troops.

According to Davit Kopaleishvili, armed units subordinate to Zviad Gamsakhurdia are still stationed near the village of Tskaltsminda.

According to information available to Kopaleishvili, at 1200 the towns of Poti and Lanchkhuti are still under the control of armed units loyal to Gamsakhurdia.

Unclear Who Controls Western Towns

LD2110162993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1426 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Controversial reports are coming from Western Georgia, where the confrontation between government troops and units loyal to deposed president Zviad Gamsakhurdia continues.

In an interview with Interfax, a spokesman for the press center of Georgia's Defense Ministry, Georgiy Chikovani, confirmed that on Wednesday [20 October] government forces regained control of the cities of Poti and Lanchkhuti.

In the meantime, when Interfax's correspondent tried to get in touch with the prefectures of these cities, his telephone calls were answered by prefects appointed by Zviad Gamsakhurdia. They said that they are in control of the situation in these cities and in the adjoining areas.

According to Samtredia's Prefect, Zviad Dzidziguri, who was appointed by Gamsakhurdia, "in the entire area of Guria and Imeretia (regions in Georgia with administrative centers in Lanchkhuti and Khoni) controlled by the legitimate authorities, the situation is calm; the population enthusiastically welcomed the restoration of law and order, and the administrative government bodies function normally."

Meanwhile, observers in Poti report that several Black Sea Fleet ships have been seen in Poti's harbor. It is believed that one of their tasks is to prevent Gamsakhurdia loyalists from exporting non-ferrous metals to Turkey.

State Troops Attack Samtredia, Senaki

LD2210074093 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 22 Oct 93

[Text] According to news agencies from Kutaisi, Georgian Government troops are stepping up military operations against the Zviadist detachments. The priority target of the attack being launched by the Government units is Samtredia, a main transport junction on the Transcaucasian railway, as well as Senaki, another important railway junction.

State Forces Regain Samtredia

LD2210111493 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 22 Oct 93

[Text] According to INTERFAX, Georgian government forces have launched an attack on Zviadist groupings in the area of Samtredia and occupied the center of the town after some fighting. Exchanges of small arms and artillery fire continue on the outskirts of the town. As is known, Samtredia was taken by supporters of ex-Georgian president Zviad Gamsakhurdia five days ago.

Further on Samtredia Fighting

AU2210111493 Paris AFP in English 1102 GMT 22 Oct 93

[Text] Kutaisi, Georgia, Oct 22 (AFP)—Government troops Friday entered the rebel held strategic town of Samtredia and fighting was going on in the streets, the Georgian Interior Ministry said, according to the official news agency Iprinda.

Forces of former president Zviad Gamsakhurdia captured Samtredia, a key rail junction, on Sunday.

Earlier Kutaisi's mayor Teimuraz Shashaishvili told AFP after meeting with military leaders: "Our forces are arriving from the north, from Khoni, which they recaptured yesterday, and from the south, from Vani."

Military leaders said here Thursday the government had driven the rebels from Khoni, also held by rebels since Sunday, and from another western town, Martvili.

However a journalist who tried to enter Khoni early Friday was prevented from doing so by soldiers who said fighting was still going on inside.

And on Friday Iprinda quoted the interior ministry as saying government forces were also pressing their offensive toward Lanchkuti and Martvili.

The capture of Martvili would be particularly significant as it would mean government forces had crossed the Tskhenistskaly river, the former frontline, and established a bridgehead in Mingrelia, Gamsakhurdia's home region.

On Thurday Russian military leaders in Georgia were quoted as saying their forces had "taken control of the defence of Georgia's railways." Two Russian warships were also patrolling the coast off the Black Sea port of Poti.

Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze has appealed to Russia to help put down the rebellion led by his rival.

On Wednesday, the first day of the government's counter- offensive, the Georgian interior ministry said that troops had seized Poti and Khoni, but local officials later denied the report.

Gamsakhurdia, Georgia's first democratically-elected president, was ousted by a popular uprising in January 1992. He returned from exile on September 24, vowing to retake the presidency.

Zviadists Occupy Ozurgeti Rayon

LD2210100093 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0900 GMT 22 Oct 93

[Text] The press service of the Georgian Defense Ministry informed CONTACT news agency that on the morning of 22 October, Loti Kobalia's illegal armed units entered the territory of Ozurgeti rayon and occupied the town of Ozurgeti.

A big treacherous deceit preceded this action by the former president's armed units. The thing is that, a few days ago, through the mediation and guarantees of Aslan Abashidze [Adzhara Supreme Council chairman], talks were held between the head of Ozurgeti local government and Loti Kobalia. An agreement was reached that government armed forces would leave Ozurgeti and, in return, Loti Kobalia's illegal units would not come close to the territory of this rayon.

However, in spite of the fact that there was no movement of government forces within the rayon yesterday and no combat operations took place, Loti Kobalia's illegal units violated the agreement and treacherously entered the town, which was practically defenseless and which had complete faith in the agreement.

Actions like this by the former presidents armed gangs have become common and have once again demonstrated their treacherous nature and their aspiration to create more and more sources of confrontation between Georgians.

Military Police Depart for Kutaisi

LD2210103293 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0900 GMT 22 Oct 93

[Text] In accordance with the Georgian defense minister's decree of 18 October, a group of military police led by Boris Ivanov, the head of the department, left for Kutaisi today. They will be actively participating in revealing and preventing acts of violence directed against the population of Kutaisi, as well as establishing general law and order.

The press center of the main department of the military police.

Prosecutor Issues Arrest Warrant for Gamsakhurdia

LD2110165893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1426 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Georgia's prosecutor-general issued warrants for the arrest of ex-president Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the commander of his armed units Vakhtang (Loti) Kobalia, and other Gamsakhurdia loyalists.

In a statement published on Thursday, the prosecutor's office said, "as the leaders of a band of criminals, Gamsakhurdia and Kobalia have launched large-scale criminal actions in Western Georgia, threatening Georgia's territorial integrity, independence, and security." According to the prosecutor's office, in Poti alone they stole 1,000 tons of metals which they sold abroad. In addition, they robbed banks, taking large sums of currency.

In the port of Poti "the bandits plundered ships delivering humanitarian aid," the statement says.

Black Sea Fleet in 'Exclusively' Peacekeeping Role

LD2110155493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1440 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunayskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Oct—Two Black Sea Fleet ships have begun to carry out a peacekeeping mission to protect merchant shipping near the Georgian coastline, an ITAR-TASS correspondent was informed by phone from the Black Sea fleet headquarters. The authorities of the port of Poti had previously appealed four times to the navy to protect merchant shipping.

At the same time the Georgian side has expressed fears about the possible landing of an amphibious assault force from the Black Sea fleet ships and the setting up of a blockade of the port of Poti. Captain Second Rank Andrey Grachev, deputy chief of the Black Sea fleet's press center, gave an ITAR-TASS correspondent a statement by Black Sea Fleet Commander Admiral Eduard Baltin, on this. The admiral stated inter alia: "We are not able to keep track of the changes in authorities in Poti, but in any case I guarantee that Black Sea fleet ships will carry out an exclusively peacekeeping mission. I have not set the ships any tasks concerning blockading the coast, never mind landing an amphibious assault force."

Emergency Commission Chairman Appeals to Rebel Leaders

LD2110183493 Tbilisi CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY in Russian 1640 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] [no dateline as received] Jaba Ioseliani, chairman of the Commission for the State of Emergency established at the office of the head of state, sent a message to the leaders of the illegal armed formations saying: "The fratricidal war now under way on Georgian soil will go down in Georgian history as a tragedy. Ancient cultural monuments are being destroyed, the Georgian genetic fund is being exterminated, and the soul of the nation is being degraded. Hundreds of people are being killed, among them, first of all, are children, women, and the elderly. Thousands have been made homeless and deprived of the normal conditions of life.

"I call on the leaders of the illegal formations to lay dowmn their arms immediately and to disband their people. I hope that you will show common sense in order to avoid new victims. Do not put your personal ambitions before the interests and welfare of the nation."

TV Reports Clinton Letter of Support for Shevardnadze

LD2110105393

[Editorial Report] Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian at 1700 GMT on 20 October carries a four-minute report on a letter sent by U.S. President Bill Clinton to Georgian Head of State Eduard Shevardnadze.

President Clinton is cited as saying that he has been following the tragic events taking place in Georgia recently; he assures Shevardnadze of his unwavering support for his struggle for Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity. The United States has condemned the Abkhazian aggression and the international community does not recognize the territorial gains Abkhazians achieved as a result of the violation of the cease-fire agreement.

The report goes on to say that President Clinton writes that, stunned by the horrible fate of deported people in Georgia, he has issued an instruction to ensure a faster supply of U.S. aid. On 5 October the United States sent the first of nine airloads of foodstuffs and medical aid. More foodstuffs, tents, blankets, and warm clothes will be sent in November. In addition, long-term assistance is planned to be rendered in future. President Clinton points out that the United States acts in close cooperation with appropriate services of the United Nations and the International Red Cross Committee. The United States also appeals to the EC and G-7 member countries to grant Georgia as much aid as possible.

In his letter, President Clinton expresses support for the talks held by UN special envoy Edouard Brunner, which are aimed at stopping military confrontation in Abkhazia. President Clinton assures Eduard Shevardnadze of U.S. readiness to participate in the talks as observers if the opposing sides believe that U.S. involvement will promote a settlement of the situation. He realizes the difficulties Eduard Shevardnadze is facing and is seeking to help him in his efforts to establish peace and stability in Georgia. He invites the Georgian head of state to visit the United States on an official visit at a mutually convenient time to discuss this and other issues. To arrange the details, U.S. Ambassador Kent Brown will be in constant contact with Eduard Shevardnadze's official representative.

President Clinton is cited as saying that at this critical moment it is very important that joint efforts be taken to expand relations between the United States and Georgia. The president expresses the hope that Eduard Shevardnadze's visit will demonstrate to the countries of the region as well as the whole world that the United States firmly supports an independent Georgia and Eduard Shevardnadze's government.

Kadagishvili, U.S. Ambassador Discuss Reforms, Aid

LD2110173993 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1400 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Today, Georgian Deputy Prime Minister Amiran Kadagishvili met Kent Brown, the U.S. ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Georgia and Steven Coffey, head of the Georgian desk of the U.S. State Department.

The conversation touched upon further prospects for economic reforms in Georgia and future relations with the CIS member countries, as well as the issue concerning the type of assistance needed by Georgia from the United States.

Kadagishvili said that it was essential that the broken economic links with the Commonwealth be restored. However, this would not exclude links with other countries.

It is important to increase control over humanitarian aid, not only in Georgia, but also in Russia and other republics. This will certainly be better done by a representative of the country that sends the goods.

As for the economic reforms in process in Georgia, the situation is bad but not hopeless, Kadagishvili said.

Shevardnadze Meets With Chinese Ambassador Wan

LD2110190093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1535 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Report by diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Voskoboynikov, Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy, and others; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] Georgia's joining the CIS will not weaken its ties with China, but contribute to their strengthening, said Georgian head of state Eduard Shevardnadze on Wednesday when receiving the Chinese Ambassador to Georgia, Wan Fengxian.

For his part the ambassador said that the Chinese leadership welcomes this decision. "Georgia's joining the CIS will help it overcome its economic crisis and resolve complicated internal problems," he said.

According to the ambassador, China decided to grant humanitarian aid—food and medicine—to refugees from Abkhazia. China's Red Cross Society allocated 300,000 yuans for these needs. In addition, it will pick up the transportation expenses.

The European Community will also grant urgent humanitarian aid for Georgian refugees from Abkhazia. Half a million ECUs have been allocated for these needs. The delivery and distribution of aid will be carried out by the Red Cross and Red Crescent organizations.

Shevardnadze Appoints Tbilisi Deputy Mayor, Envoy

LD2110203193 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1900 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] By decree of the head of state:

Konstantine Kapanadze is to be appointed the deputy mayor of Tbilisi, the prime minister of the municipality.

Tamaz Nadareishvili is to be appointed Georgian head of state's envoy for special matters.

Konstantine Gabashvili is to be appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Georgia to Federal Germany.

[Signed] Eduard Shevardnadze.

Estonia

Russian Air Force Chief Says Troops To Leave by Year's End

WS2110113293 Tallinn ETA NEWS RELEASE in English 1724 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] Tallinn, October 20—"The Russian air defence division stationed in Estonia will leave by the end of the year at the latest," the head of the division, Major General Abdurakhmanov, assured ETA on Wednesday.

Abdurakhmanov also said the withdrawal might be speeded up if Russia helped with transport while promising to give more exact information on withdrawal timetable early next week.

Parliament Ratifies Consular Convention With Russia

LD2110144793 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1800 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] The Riigikogu today ratified the consular convention between the Republic of Estonia and the Russian Federation signed on 2 December 1992 in Moscow. The Riigikogu rejected the royalists' faction's proposal to postpone ratification until after the Russian troops are withdrawn from Estonia. Aap Neljas, a Riigikogu foreign commission member, told ETA that the convention would allow both Estonian and Russian citizens and inhabitants travel and communication between the two countries as well as protection from the other country whenever required.

Velliste Praises Yeltsin's Moves To Normalize Relations

LD2110211393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1748 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin, edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] Trivimi Velliste, the foreign minister and acting prime minister of Estonia, described the recent letter by Russian President Boris Yeltsin to his Estonian counterpart, Lennart Meri, as "a demonstration of the Russian president's desire for cooperation and mutual understanding with Estonia."

This is a "constructive step" towards normalizing Estonian-Russian relations, Velliste said in an interview with INTERFAX, expressing the hope that top-level contacts between the two states would very soon be a reality.

Moving over to the issue of Yeltsin's assurances that Russian troops were being pulled out of Estonia according to schedule, Velliste said that Estonia, however, had no money to pay for the construction of accommodations for Russian servicemen leaving the country, thus being unable to help solve that main obstacle. Estonia, however, could act as a mediator if Russia decided to ask third countries for such funds, he said.

Velliste said Estonian companies already had some experience in building housing for militaary officers in Russia, which they had carried out along with the cooperation of Finland and Turkey. They were interested in having new costruction orders, and could build not only up to standard and quickly but for less money than Western companies could, Velliste said.

Laar Continues Belgian Trip, Says EC Accord 'Months' Away

WS2110131393 Tallinn BNS in English 1057 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Brussels, Oct 21, BNS—Estonian Prime Minister Mart Laar predicted Wednesday [20 October] that his country could be just months from concluding a free trade deal with the European Community.

Such a deal could be the first between the 12-nation EC and a former Soviet state.

After talks with EC chief executive Jacques Delors, Laar said Estonia could conclude an accord to open borders by early next year.

EC officials declined to confirm the timing, but said trade talks with Estonia were more advanced with the other Baltic republics—Lithuania and Latvia.

However, they said a number of thorny issues had to be resolved. These included the impact on Estonia's fledgling financial sector of free trade in banking, and competition for Community farmers from Estonian agricultural goods.

The question of oil, steel and other goods re-exported through Estonia from other former Soviet republics could also cause difficulties, said an EC trade official, who demanded anonymity.

During his four-day visit to Brussels, Laar also met with NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner. He said they had discussed proposals for possible "associate membership" for its former Warsaw Pact foes as a preparation for their joining the alliance.

"We are interested," Laar said. But he added that Estonia was in no hurry to join the 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organization. "To move too quickly could make NATO weakened and disorganized and that would not be useful," he said.

In an apparent reference to Russia, which maintains 3,500 troops in Estonia, Laar said, "What we are interested in now are concrete security guarantees from EC nations...so that no bigger state can see that it is possible to turn history back."

Laar said Estonia's efforts to liberalize its economy were more advanced than those in Lithuania and Latvia and

that the EC should not wait until all three were ready before concluding a free trade deal.

He also pointed out that Estonia has already signed free trade accords with Norway, Sweden and Finland, countries that have opened negotiations to join the EC by 1995.

And he said Estonia has already opened its borders to Community products. "Estonia is ready now for a full free trade treaty," he told reporters at the EC headquarters.

Sweden Presents Border Guards With Refurbished Patrol Ship

WS2110113893 Tallinn ETA NEWS BULLETIN in English 0836 GMT 21 Oct 93

[From 21 October RAHVA HAAL, PAEVALEHT, p 1]

[Excerpts] Thursday, October 21—The Border Guard Department was presented a new patrol craft yesterday. The vessel was turned over in the Border Guard base in Kopli Port by the Swedish Defence Ministry Chancellor Michael Sahlin, Swedish Ambassador Lars Grundberg and representatives of the Swedish Coast Guard. The Estonian side was represented by Interior Minister Lagle Parek and Director General of Border Guard Tarmo Kuts. The Estonian flag was raised aboard the patrol craft at 1230. [passage omitted]

Head of Border Guard control centre Aare Evisalu estimated the repair (the patrol craft was built in 1968) to have cost at least 2 million kronor. The patrol craft is equipped with modern electronics but is unarmed. The craft No 001, also donated by Sweden, was later armed with a machine gun.

The Border Guard has 12 larger patrol craft and about 20 smaller launches, but not all are operational, Evisalu said.

The Swedish and Estonian experts discussed the radar system necessary for monitoring the sea and land borders and airspace. Defence Ministry Chancellor Hannes Walter said. The Swedish experts had prepared a report on possible monitoring system and an Estonian delegation is to visit Sweden soon to learn more about their radars. But Sweden is not the only manufacturer considered, Walter added.

Assembly Party Candidates Win 'Absolute Majority'

WS2110112993 Tallinn BNS in English 1935 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Excerpt] Tallinn, Oct 20, BNS—Candidates running in the Assembly Party list gained the absolute majority in the town council of the Russian-populated town of Sillamae in northeastern Estonia.

The party's candidates will occupy 13 seats in the 21-member council. Centrists will have 4 seats, candidates from the local factory list 3 seats, and Moderates, 1 seat.

Officials in the Sillamae election commission said 67.4 percent, or 6,377 out of the town's 9,475 eligible voters participated in the election. [passage omitted]

'Several Leading Figures' Said Considering Resignation

WS2110113493 Tallinn ETA NEWS BULLETIN in English 0836 GMT 21 Oct 93

[From 21 October RAHVA HAAL, HOMMIKULEHT, pp 1, 3]

[Text] Thursday, October 21—Several leading figures of the governing coalition are reported to be considering resignation. According to the weekly EESTI EKSPRESS, the Prime Minister's advisor Tiit Pruuli intends to resign because of heart trouble. Pruuli is currently in Belgium with Prime Minister Mart Laar and his resignation is expected to be announced in the nearest future.

The "Fatherland" coalition also discussed the replacement of Illar Hallaste as its faction chairman. Hallaste is currently hospitalized because of heart trouble and Lauri Vahtre stressed this fact as the only reason for the intended replacement. The Riigikogu members linked the intended move with the spirit affair and also referred to a possible removal of Heiki Kranich from the post of faction vice-chairman.

Lauri Vahtre explained Hallaste's health problems with the "accusations in the press" concerning his role in the scandal around the "Liviko" distillery. The "Fatherland" is likely to decide the matter within this week, Vahtre added.

Heiki Kranich told ETA yesterday that he will resign from the administrative board of the "Liviko" and Moe distilleries and Hallaste will act likewise. "I considered it to be my duty to represent the state's interests on the boards. If the board's approach differs from that of the state, I find it senseless to continue my work there," Kranich commented.

'Surveillance Microphone' Found in Savings Bank Office

WS2110113993 Tallinn ETA NEWS BULLETIN in English 0836 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Thursday, October 21—A surveillance microphone was discovered in the head office of the savings bank in town hall square during repairs, the bank has offered a reward of 10,000 kroons to anyone who can provide information about the bugging.

Latvia

Official Views Upcoming U.S. Secretary of State Visit

LD2110175793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1535 GMT 21 Oct 93

[By diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Voskoboynikov, Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy and others; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] Next Wednesday the Foreign Ministers of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia—Georg Andreyev, Povilas Gylys, and Trivimi Velliste—will discuss with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher bilateral relations and problems connected with Russian troop withdrawal from the Baltic countries, the director of the Latvian Foreign Ministry's North America Department, Janis Embrekts, told Interfax on Thursday. According to him, Latvia intends to "reaffirm its attitude on these issues to the U.S. Secretary of State."

The program of Warren Christopher's visit to Latvia will be "extremely intensive," the diplomat said. In the less than two days of his stay in Riga he will meet with President Guntis Ulmanis and with Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs, and confer with the foreign ministers of the three Baltic countries.

The program of his visit also includes meetings with spokesmen for Latvia's Russian-speaking community and with American diplomats accredited in Riga. In addition, Warren Christopher will take part in several memorial ceremonies, including the laying of flowers at the Statue of Liberty in Riga.

During his tour of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Warren Christopher will visit Moscow, where he arrives Thursday evening, as well as Kiev, Minsk, and Almaty. He may also pay a brief visit to Tbilisi.

U.S. Ambassador Denies Accord With Russians on Facilities

LD2110210993 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1800 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] President Guntis Ulmanis had a meeting today with the foreign ambassadors accredited to Latvia. The president told them about the latest events which characterize our relations with Russia. He also told them about the message of President Boris Yeltsin that was handed over by the Russian Federation's Ambassador Aleksandr Rannikh. This was in reply to the Latvian president's letter.

During a talk, U.S. Ambassador to Latvia Ints Silins categorically denied a report disseminated in the press that the United States might have some secret agreement with Russia about one or another of the strategic facilities [of the Russian Army].

State President Guntis Ulmanis today had a meeting also with the management and heads of the printing works shops and heads of departments of the Preses Nams [House of the Press] shareholding company and publishing house.

'No Progress' Achieved in Talks on Russian Army Withdrawal

LD2110112993 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 0800 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] At the regular interstate round of talks between Latvia and Russia, which took place from 18 to 20 October in Moscow, no progress was achieved on the issue of the date of the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Latvia. Journalists were informed of this by the head of the Latvian delegation, Martins Virsis, after his return from the talks.

According to Virsis, the basic agreement on the withdrawal of the troops will not be signed during the next few rounds of talks either. Virsis added that, apart from that, the main contradictions in the standpoints of both sides are on the issues of Russian Army property in Latvia and the withdrawal of troops from the so-called strategic facilities, the Skrunda radar station, the Liepaja naval port, and the Ventspils district cosmic reconnaissance station. As Virsis said, in the course of the talks there was, nevertheless, a certain progress achieved in some questions connected with the social security of Russian military persons and retired officers, but this problem too has not been solved completely, because Russia is still demanding that the military persons, when leaving Latvia, be paid compensation for the apartments left behind. It is possible that at the next round of the talks, envisaged to be held in November, a consular convention and an agreement connected with transport movement in the territory of both states will be signed. Also agreements on the preparation of border region studies might be completed.

Foreign Ministry Views Grachev's Withdrawal Announcement

LD2110202993 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1800 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] While on a visit to Helsinki, Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev made an announcement that Russian troops will not be withdrawn from Latvia and Estonia as long as discrimination against Russian-speakers is not prevented in these states.

In this connection, the Latvian Foreign Ministry has issued a statement reiterating that the disassociation of the troop withdrawal from the solution to other problems is not only a stance of principle of Latvia, but a demand fixed in the documents of authoritative (?and) international organizations and forums.

The statement indicates that Grachev's announcement is in gross contradiction with Russia's heretofore declared

official stance. Authoritative international commissions and experts have not ascertained violations of the rights of non-Latvian inhabitants.

The Foreign Ministry sees in Grachev's announcement an attempt by methods that do not comply to the norms of international relations to consolidate the influence of Russia in the Baltic region.

The Latvian Foreign Ministry sees this as a confirmation of the fact that technical difficulties for the withdrawal of the troops do not exist and that there are only political reasons for the presence of Russian troops in the Baltic states.

IMF Team Arrives To Assist in Drafting Development Plan

WS2110113193 Tallinn BNS in English 1843 GMT 20 Oct 93

[Text] Riga, Oct 20, BNS—The International Monetary Fund's mission came to Riga Wednesday to help the Latvian government draft an economic development memorandum.

The group met Thursday [as received] with Latvian Finance Minister Uldis Osis and Bank of Latvia's Governor Einars Repse. Latvian officials acquainted the guests with the recent economic changes in Latvia, like the increased sales tax and the anticipated customs regulations.

The mission will work in Latvia until Oct. 29. It is led by the IMF European Department head, Leif Hansen.

Lithuania

Deputy Defense Minister Tenders Resignation

LD2110141993 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Russian 1300 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Lithuanian Deputy Defense Minister Sarunas Vasiliauskas has submitted his resignation. It has to be approved by Premier Adolfas Slezevicius. Vasiliauskas said that his resignation is not linked with the resignation of the Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius.

Butkevicius will reportedly leave his ministry on 29 October. According to various sources, more than 10 high-ranking officials in the Ministry of National Defense have tendered their resignations. Their motives are so far unclear.

Minister Butkevicius commented upon this in a calm manner, as it is expected that these people will remain in the Ministry of National Defense, although serving in other duties.

'Mass Resignations' Rumored

WS2110144193 Tallinn BNS in English 1325 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Text] Vilnius, Oct 21, BNS—Sarunas Vasiliauskas, Lithuanian vice minister of defense, tendered his resignation to the prime minister Oct. 20.

Vasiliauskas said the step is not related to the resignation of Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius, who reportedly will leave the ministry Oct. 29.

Various sources report that around ten high-ranking defense officials decided to give up their posts, as well. The motives of these mass resignations remain vague.

Butkevicius' reaction to the move was calm. He supposes that a majority of these people will remain in the system of national defense.

President Orders 'Every Effort' To Secure NATO Membership

WS2210111193 Tallinn BNS in English 1926 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Excerpt] VILNIUS, Oct 21, BNS—Adolfas Venckus, Lithuania's ambassador to NATO, said he was instructed by President Algirdas Brazauskas "to exert every effort, in order to continue Lithuania's approach to NATO."

However the ambassador added that both he and Brazauskas consider it necessary to do the work "quietly." The opposition recently demanded to declare on official level that Lithuania seeks to become a member of NATO.

In an interview with the LIETUVOS RYTAS newspaper, Venckus sharply criticized statements by Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis, who reportedly said that Latvia should join NATO together with Russia.

"That, what is suggested by Ulmanis, virtually coincides with Russia's suggestions. The Latvian president's statement is a huge step backwards," Venckus said. The ambassador noted that Lithuania's relations with NATO will largely depend on the NATO summit, which is scheduled for Jan. 10.

Venckus bases his supposition on a view expressed by a member of the U.S. mission to NATO, who reportedly said that membership of the Baltic states might be discussed if a decision to admit countries of the Vyshegrad treaty is made at the NATO summit.

The ambassador said he is confident that Lithuania will join both NATO and the European Community. [passage omitted]

Germany's President Affirms Support for Lithuania

LD2110202193 Berlin ADN in German 1835 GMT 21 Oct 93

[Excerpt] Vilnius, 21 Oct (ADN)— German President Richard von Weizsaecker has affirmed that Germany favors stronger links between Lithuania and European structures. Germany would also provide a considerable amount of support to help implement economic and political reform in the Baltic republic, Von Weizsaecker said at a reception given in his honor by President Algirdas Brazauskas in Vilnius this evening. The German president has arrived for a two-day visit to Lithuania today.

President Brazauskas emphasized his country's great interest in a further expansion of relations with Germany, particularly economic ties. Germany was already one of Lithuania's biggest trading partners, Brazauskas said. Almost a third of Lithuania's exports to Western Europe go to Germany. In addition to this, there are already about 300 German-Lithuanian joint ventures. [passage omitted]

Landsbergis Calls for 'National Policy' on Kaliningrad

PM2110101993 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Oct 93 p 2

[Valeriy Gromak report under the "From Our Information Bureau" rubric: "Landsbergis Fears the 'Embraces' of Kaliningrad Oblast"]

[Text] Vilnius—Vytautas Landsbergis, leader of the right-wing opposition in the Lithuanian parliament, has issued a proposal to begin shaping a national policy in respect of Kaliningrad Oblast, and he has suggested establishing a special government department for this purpose.

Landsbergis noted that Russia's militarized Kaliningrad Oblast is "a strategic arm embracing Lithuania." This, in his words, is forcing discussion on the future of Kaliningrad Oblast to begin both in confidential and in official policy.

Brazauskas Remains 'Most Popular Politician'

PM2110095993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Oct 93 First Edition p 1

[ITAR-TASS report: "President Brazauskas Most Popular Politician in Lithuania"]

[Text] According to the figures of a poll conducted on the republic's territory in 106 areas by the independent "Baltic Research" company, Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas remains the country's most popular politician. His trust rating has increased over the month and he collected 65 percent of the "votes" of all respondents. The results of the poll were published in the newspaper RESPUBLIKA. In second place is Sejm deputy chairman Egidijus Bickauskas, while the trust rating of Prime Minister Albertas Sinevicius fell 4 percent in September compared with August. The popularity rating of opposition leader Vytautas Landsbergis is falling steadily. This poll showed that among leading politicians, he only ranks seventh and "lost" a further 3 percent in September.